

JPRS 82682

19 January 1983

Near East/South Asia Report

No. 2694



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

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'ARAFAT ADDRESSES LETTER TO GEORGES MARCHAIS

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 18 Nov 82 p 8

[Text] In response to the message of solidarity sent to him by the secretary general of the French Communist Party, Yasser Arafat wrote to Georges Marchais:

My very dear friend,

I received your important message. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the noble sentiments that you display toward our Palestinian people, their revolution and their just cause, and toward our Lebanese brothers and their patriotic and progressive forces; these forces which have conducted an admirable and difficult battle with us against the savage aggression of Zionism in Lebanon and against fascist mercenaries who played the dishonorable role of conspirators in the service of the aggressors and flagrantly acted as traitors in order to realize their perverse objectives.

Comrade, I was greatly touched by the profound thoughts expressed in your message and particularly by the emphasis placed by you and your party on the exceptional acts of heroism performed by the exemplary joint forces in their confrontation with the American-Israeli military apparatus. Indeed, this apparatus exceeded all limits and scorned all the traditions of military ethics in transforming itself into the perpetrator of a series of crimes of extermination against the Lebanese and Palestinian people. For, of all the wars and all the struggles that our region has experienced in modern times, this savage aggression took the most civilian victims and destroyed the most property. And yet, it is up to us, the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese patriotic forces, to hold our positions and to defend every inch of Lebanese soil in order to prove to the world that assured of their cause and armed with their desire, the Palestinian soldiers were able to confront racism and fascism and its apparatus of destruction and compel it to pay the price of its savage aggression at all levels.

And, it is pride and satisfaction that I feel in thinking of the historic and steadfast strength demonstrated by the heroic city of Beirut and all its defenders. For this resolute strength doomed to failure all the

enemy's attempts to occupy this courageous city so long as its heroic defenders remained there. And despite all of the Zionists' boldest attempts to take the city by assault and to rob it of its honor and its pride, the besieged city of Beirut became a meeting ground for heroism and militant sacrifice and the symbol of strength and victory.

Dear comrade, I am in agreement with you: the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people and particularly their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their independent state are the basis for peace and stability in our region. And although the war in Lebanon clearly proved this face, we still have to make a very real effort together to encourage all parties affected by the peace and stability of the region to broaden their positions and to assume their responsibilities in a more effective and more positive direction. And, I can only praise the decisive and responsible role played by France during the Israeli aggression in Lebanon--a role which you largely contributed to defining--and I therefore expect all the assistance required from France in particular and Europe in general in supporting our struggle and our national rights which are now benefiting from the widest popular support and sympathy throughout the world.

Dear comrade, I thank you for your invitation to visit France. I am pleased to tell you once more than I am ready to reply when the time is at hand. I will thus have the opportunity to meet you and to meet our friend the French people who have demonstrated the most positive attitude toward our people, our national rights and our legitimate struggle.

In closing, dear comrade, please accept our best regards to you and the comrade members of the leadership of your party and our sincere desires for the pursuit of the struggle for human rights and for peace for mankind.

Yasser Arafat
President of the Executive Committee of the PLO,
Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the Palestinian REvolution

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CSO: 4419/8

CONDITIONS FOR ISRAELI-LEBANESE TOURISM REPORTED

TA231240 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 Dec 82 p 5

[Report by Gad Li'or]

[Text] Citizens of Lebanon who hold Lebanese passports or identity cards will be permitted to enter Israel from now on without a permit. This was decided by the Ministry of the Interior in codes published yesterday.

Director-general of the Ministry of the Interior, Yehudit Huebner, reported that within the next few days thousands of Lebanese are expected to visit Israel for the Christmas celebrations. Their stay in Israel is restricted to 30 days.

At the same time, the Ministry of the Interior also issued special directives for the entry of Israeli citizens into Lebanon:

--An Israeli citizen can cross over to Lebanon for the purpose of a private visit, commerce, agriculture and so on. The person wishing to go to Lebanon must explain, in detail and in writing, the reason for his visit to that country and send this to the regional office of the population administration in his area of residence. If the visit is for purposes of commerce or agriculture, the person desiring the visit to Lebanon must acquire a permit from the appropriate government office recommending his trip to Lebanon. The Ministry of the Interior's answer will be given within 3-5 days.

--Passage to Lebanon will be permitted with an "exit card" such as that given to Arabs from the territories who travel to Jordan via the Jordan River bridges. There is no need for an Israeli passport.

The "exit card" may be used many times, as long as it is valid.

These instructions will not apply to state employees going to Lebanon to fulfill their duties and who have a licence for this.

However, it has been learned that the trend in the Ministry of the Interior at present is not to be overgenerous in giving permits for private visits to Lebanon. This is because of the dangers still threatening Israelis there.

CSO: 4400/145

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

INCIDENT WITH EGYPTIAN, ISRAELI ATHLETES REPORTED

TA261248 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Dec 82 p 1, 11

[Report by Nisan Friedman and by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The Egyptian students' table tennis team did not receive approval from the Egyptian Embassy in Brazil to play against the Israeli team in the framework of the students' world championship games taking place in Brazil last week.

This astounded the Israeli team which was looking forward to the game against Egypt, competing for the seventh and eighth places in the championship.

"There were good relations between us," a member of the Israeli team, 'Adi Rosenbaum said. "We lived in the same hotel. We could not digest things when the Egyptians informed us they had been instructed by their embassy to wait for special permission to play against us. The players themselves said they were eager to play but had no choice but to abide by the order. They were really embarrassed when I asked them: Is this peace? Is this the way you intend to behave?"

On the morning of the game the two teams' members had a drink together and in the evening they took a minibus to the competition hall. Rosenbaum filled out the registration forms as customary and then was informed by the Egyptian team's leader that the game could not be played since the permission was not received.

"They had 2 days to arrange the formal matters," Rosenbaum says. "We are afraid they evaded the game for an incomprehensible reason."

Ilan Kfir reports:

The Foreign Ministry will examine today the political implications of the Egyptian teams' refusal to play against the Israeli team.

The report on this was received in Jerusalem with surprise last evening and today the details will be checked out in contacts with the Israeli Embassy in Brazil. A senior political source in Jerusalem told MA'ARIV last evening that if it transpires that the order to the Egyptian team not to play against the Israeli team emanated from the political level in Cairo, this will mean a worrisome development which Israel will have to deal with.

CSO: 4400/145

PROBLEMS IN GETTING VISAS TO EGYPT NOTED IN GAZA

TA050711 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 5 Jan 83 p 3

[Report by Yisra'el 'Amrani]

[Text] Despite past promises, Gaza Strip residents who wish to visit their relatives on the Egyptian side of the border face many difficulties in obtaining exit visas from Israeli authorities, THE JERUSALEM POST has learned.

Residents of Rafah, which was divided between Israel and Egypt on the completion of the withdrawal from Sinai on April 25, told THE POST that it is difficult in general to get exit visas. But their chances are nil they said, if they are male, under 26, and single or married without children. Many of them have parents, brothers and sisters across the border, whom they can contact only by shouting across the border the residents said.

Residents also complained that the visa fee of IS1,000 was much too steep for them and discouraged some from applying for a visa. They said that the Egyptians charged them only four Egyptian pounds (about IS160) for their permit. Yehudit Huebner, director of the immigration services department in the Interior Ministry, confirmed that Gaza Strip residents cannot go from Israel to Egypt as often as they wished, for security reasons. She said that the policy was to allow longer, less frequent visits rather than short, frequent ones. This policy, she said, was laid out by the military authorities; ministry personnel only acted as "contractors."

As for Rafah residents, Huebner said that those who applied for daily passes received them, and that everyone could apply. She declined to comment on the fee.

According to local sources, there are about 80 persons who hold daily passes to west Rafah (Egypt) from east Rafah (Israel) but these are persons who own property and businesses there. Having relatives in west Rafah, they said, was not considered a good enough reason for a daily pass.

CSO: 4400/145

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

LEBANON PURCHASING ISRAELI FRUIT--Lebanon is purchasing large quantities of fruit from Israel at a high price and it appears that some of the produce will be transferred from there to other Arab countries. The vegetable council reported yesterday that Lebanon is purchasing from Israel the most expensive fruit, such as the kiwi fruit, costing about \$1,500 a ton. The Lebanese are also buying mangos, custard apples, avocados and bananas. The Lebanese are paying in cash for the goods and every month the sales are increasing. It is expected that these purchases will increase with the strengthening of economic relations between Israel and Lebanon. [Text] [TA200915 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 20 Dec 82 p 4]

ISRAELI AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS TO EGYPT--Tel Aviv, 27 Dec (ITIM)--The preparation of the "Guidebook for Exports to Egypt" was completed recently. The book was issued by the Exports Institute in cooperation with the Discount Bank. A ceremony was held to mark this occasion with the participation of Faruq Mabruk, the commercial adviser attached to the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv, the head of the Israeli Exports Institute, Elisha' Shahman, and the director of the institute's training department, Natan Hushan. During the ceremony it was reported that Israeli exports to Egypt have increased by more than 25 percent in 1982 compared to exports in 1981. The total exports between January and September 1982 totaled \$14.5 million while in all of 1981 exports to Egypt totaled \$15.3 million. Israeli exports to Egypt are today mainly in the sphere of agriculture and are destined to the public sector there. [Excerpts] [TA271722 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1705 GMT 27 Dec 82]

ISRAELI EXPORTS TO EGYPT--Despite the war in Lebanon, which put an end to the practical commercial ties between Israel and Egypt, Israeli exports to Egypt in 1982 will reach \$15 million. This estimate was voiced by members of the Industry and Commerce Ministry. In 1981 the Israeli exports to Egypt reached \$15.3 million. The chief exports items to Egypt are agricultural. In 1982 these exports amounted to some \$9 million, of which more than \$5.5 million was the export of fodder, some \$1.8 for the export of chicks and poultry. Ever since the war in Lebanon first broke out, the exports to Egypt have continued only in the poultry industry, primarily eggs and breeding chicks. [Text] [TA031427 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 3 Jan 83 p 10]

EGYPTIAN TOURISM TO ISRAEL DECLINES--Only a few tourists have reached Israel from Egypt since the war ended. In general, there is a significant decline in the number of Egyptian tourists arriving in Israel. In 1982, their number reached just 2,000. These details were revealed in a news conference held by the hotels union leaders today. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar was there: [Begin Shahar recording] According to the data presented by the president of the hotels union, Morris Cassouto, regarding the number of Egyptian tourists who arrived in Israel during the past year, it is possible to say that the picture is not too encouraging. In June 1982, when Cassouto served as a representative of the Tourism Ministry in Egypt, the Egyptian authorities began procrastinating regarding the issuance of exit permits to Israel, and, according to Cassouto, on the authorities' advice the advertisements by the Israeli representation in Egypt intended to encourage tourism to Israel were stopped. All in all, 2,000 Egyptian tourists arrived in Israeli in 1982. [End recording] [Excerpt] [TA051718 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 5 Jan 83]

CSO: 4400/145

ISLAMIC AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

LOAN FOR DJIBOUTI--The Islamic Development Bank in Jidda today signed a loan of \$3.33 million to finance a project to expand the power station in capital city of Djibouti. The agreement was signed in the Djibouti side by Industry and Industrial Development Minister Fahmy Ahmed el Hag and on the Islamic Development Bank side by the President of the bank Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali. [GF050612 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 4 Jan 83]

CIVIL AVIATION COUNCIL--An agreement was signed Thursday at the Organization of Islamic Conference headquarters to establish an Islamic Council for Civil Aviation, whose primary goals will be to facilitate civil aviation among the Islamic countries. Tunisian Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi signed the agreement, and thus Tunisia became the first Islamic country to sign this agreement. [Nabil Husayn 'Ashri dispatch from Jidda] [Excerpt] [GF111630 Jidda AL-BILAD in Arabic 8 Jan 83 p 5]

CSO: 4400/152

RESTRUCTURING OF HEAVY INDUSTRY EXAMINED

Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE in French No 980, 3-9 Dec 82 pp 20-23

[Article by Yacine Ould Moussa; "Restructuring of Heavy Industry: Rationalizing and Getting a Good Return on Management"]

[Text] The industrial sector has an important place in our national productive structure. For more than a decade the development policy in effect has continuously broadened the productive base of our industrial fabric, for which very large financial investments and considerable social sacrifices have been made.

At present rationalizing and getting a good return on management and the development of all the entities making up our industrial structure have required overall reorganization to make these entities function more effectively in terms of all of the economic and social requirements included in our policy of developing the country.

With this concern in mind the restructuring of the companies in the heavy industrial sector is considered a decisive aspect of the process of reorganization of the national economy.

Five companies, which are of considerable size in terms of their technical and human components, make up our heavy industrial sector and have been chosen for the implementation of a restructuring plan developed and approved at all levels of the various institutional bodies concerned; the sectoral committees, the National Restructuring Committee, and the cabinet ministers' committee.

At the organizational level the SNS [National Steel Company], SN Metal [National Metal Construction Company], SONACOME [National Mechanical Engineering Company], SONAREM [National Prospecting and Mine Exploitation Company], and SONELEC [Algerian National Company for the Manufacture and Installation of Electrical and Electronic Equipment] have given birth to more than 40 new companies, developed in terms of specialization, separation of trading functions, engineering, and services provided to the productive sectors of the company involved.

Furthermore, this effort to restructure the industrial sector fits fully within the framework of the decentralization policy now being applied by the various government services in the country.

This decentralization process, whose purpose is to achieve an improved distribution of activity and of personnel throughout the country, was reaffirmed once again at the meeting presided over by the prime minister, which the ministers of interior, planning and national development, and heavy industry attended. In the same way, when economic and social projects in Algiers province and the general situation in the capital were under consideration, President Chadli reiterated the need to establish national company headquarters outside the capital.

To this end in the course of 1983 the basic aspects of company restructuring and the establishment of new companies in the interior of the country, or at least outside the capital, should be completed.

The object of the restructuring effort is first of all to establish new centers of economic and social activity, to stabilize productive work and capitalize on the experience acquired in the course of more than a decade of industrialization. In the same way this will provide an occasion for the establishment and creation of these new companies and for the development of maintenance industries and small and medium-sized companies for which sub-contracting to larger companies will be a specialized sphere of activity.

Rationalization of management, improvement of economic performance, strengthening the industrial fabric, direct responsibility assigned to the producers --these are also the results expected from the restructuring process, to the extent that improvements in production and productivity remain a fundamental objective for the implementation of the five-year plan and the realization of the legitimate aspirations of the masses of the people.

Regarding heavy industry, organic restructuring will be achieved through the establishment of 17 companies coming out of the SNS, 11 companies from SONACOME, eight from SONELEC, five from SN Metal, and two companies from SONAREM. It should be added a restructuring scenario for each segment of SONAREM is now under study.

Adapting the Environment to the Demands of Regional and National Development

In restructuring the heavy industrial sector the success of the operation is linked to the quality and coherence of accompanying actions taken for this new configuration of the industrial structure.

Accompanying measures in fact will be approved at two quite different levels. First of all, at the local level, these will involve arranging for and reserving the ground needed for the establishment of new company headquarters and taking all steps necessary to facilitate the reception of all of the personnel who will have to move and establish residence in the different provinces and districts to which they are assigned. Housing will constitute an important part of these accompanying measures, just as it will be necessary to look into and make use of all possibilities to bring together the minimum conditions for

the proper installation of company offices and personnel. It is certain, for example, that family problems, schooling for children, and medical care needed by the members of a family, in cases where the head of the family is expected to move to a new place of work, will have some impact on the restructuring process and the allocation of labor. However, it is proper to say that these circumstances will not constitute insurmountable obstacles but rather will be problem areas calling for consideration in the framework of objective and rational action.

Local authorities, the provincial government, the party, and the mass organizations have an important role to play in implementing this reorganization of the national economy, whose regional fallout in terms of employment, income, training, and production will be considerable.

At the national level, company restructuring implies and requires the generalized decentralization of all decision-making and management centers constituting the economic and administrative environment of the company involved. This concerns carrying out company deconcentration in order to make the companies fully responsible for their operations and measuring in a significant way their productivity, their production, and their contribution to national development and to the satisfaction of the economic and social needs of the country.

Experience has shown what the difficulties are facing Algerian companies in spite of the availability of government guidance and offices for assistance and decision in the area of company management and development.

It is also essential to prevent distance from amplifying the problems facing a company. Quite to the contrary, it is imperative to reduce problems to their simplest dimensions, in the sense that all elements making up the economic and administrative environment of the company should, on the one hand, exist in the general vicinity of the company and, above all, should have authority permitting them to deal on the spot with all problems and activities related to the functioning of the new company. Thus, for example, financial institutions, the customs service, and the Algerian Development Bank should faithfully support the needs of this new entity in our industrial fabric and in our economy in general.

In this way restructuring and decentralization will be able to lift all constraints resulting from the general environment and supply a new impetus to economic activity, with the speed and volume of such activity set out in the five-year plan and in terms of the social and economic needs of the country.

For it is only right to place all of the advantages on the side of the new company so that it will benefit from a viable environment suitable to the role and missions of local institutions and government services and in accordance with respect for existing domestic legislation and guidance in all areas of the economic and social life of the nation.

Necessary Coordination

In terms of the establishment of new companies in the heavy industrial sector, four of them have already been set up; the national company for the distribution of privately-owned vehicles at Cheraga, the national company for industrial vehicles at Rouiba, the national agricultural machinery company at Sidi Bel Abbas, all three formed from SONACOME; and most recently the national electronic industries company at Sidi Bel Abbas, formed out of SONELEC.

From now to the end of 1983 about 30 companies are to be established. The legislation providing for their establishment is presently in the secretariat general of the government. At the same time the organizational structures of these 30 or so new companies are under study in the Ministry of Planning and National Development.

These organizational structures reflect a desire to have small supervisory offices and a determination to make the productive areas of the companies concerned entirely responsible for their activities. Therefore, these organizational structures place the accent on decentralization of management while providing for suitable distribution of personnel.

On this subject, this concerns bringing out existing potentialities and carrying on complementary recruiting in order to avoid unnecessary growth in certain professional groups.

Regarding coordination between companies in the same industrial branch, a note issued on 26 June 1982 by the Ministry of Planning and National Development defines the different formulas which the various sectors could adopt to strengthen planning and coordination. The forms which are proposed and which could be adopted might take the form of the assumption of direction and control by the central administration of the company through new planning structures organized by branch and sector.

A second formulation might consist of the establishment of national organisms of research, development, and management of an administrative character. These would have functional tasks and would have no authority over new companies in the branch or sector. Another possibility would lie in the establishment of development and application companies and study bureaus which would interact with the new companies in the framework of the regionalization program. They would be socialist enterprises without any authority over the new companies.

A fourth possibility would consist in the establishment of company groups which would be the legal owners of the new companies and would assume hierarchical authority over them in certain areas. However, this coordination and planning formula implies an amendment to existing legislation on the socialist management of enterprise [GSE].

A final formulation under consideration advocates the establishment of inter-company coordination councils as provided for in the GSE Charter.

The fact remains that the choice of a form for the coordination structure will be guided by the particular circumstances and needs of the various branches and sections that constitute the industrial and economic fabric of our country.

Regarding heavy industry, it can be said that 1983 will see the completion of the restructuring program and will be a decisive factor in the implementation of the policy of decentralization. This policy has been undertaken by our country to strengthen the role played by our structures and our people in the battle against under-development and economic dependence.

5170
CSO: 4519/102

ELECTRIFICATION PROJECTS REPORTED

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 22 Dec 82 p 4

[Article: "All Governorates To Be Electrified By the End of 1987"]

[Text] At the end of 1982, 779,000 households are still without electricity.

In 9 years, 421,000 new households were supplied with electricity.

The Council of Ministers reviewed the dossier of the country's electrification, examined the results obtained and future prospects, and made two very important decisions.

The first is intended to increase the rate of electrification in underprivileged governorates; the second deals with the acceleration of electrification in order to achieve an overall national rate of 95 percent by the end of 1987.

To grasp the significance of these decisions and the impact they are bound to have on the work now in progress, we should first draw the balance of what had been accomplished by the end of 1982.

In 1974, to complete the country's electrification, 12,000 centers still had to be connected, 63,000 km of power lines built and 1,200,000 households connected to the network. By the end of 1982, these figures were down to 9,500 centers, 43,100 km and 779,000 households.

This evolution shows that, over 9 years, 20,000 km of power lines were built, 3,500 centers electrified and 421,000 households connected, i.e. the equivalent of one third of the national electrification program.

The decision just made by the government will require the construction of 14,450 km of power lines in 1983 and 1984. Compared with what was achieved from 1974 to 1982 (20,000 km), these provisions show what an important effort remains to be made to reach the objectives.

Table 1. Realizations From 1974 to 1984

<u>Category</u>	<u>1974-1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
Power-lines (km)	6,000	2,270	290	3,700	5,000	6,650	7,800
Centers	870	217	280	224	700	950	1,050
Households	158,000	43,500	49,000	78,000	92,500	120,000	144,000

The new rate of realization is the result of the efforts made in the past few years to electrify the country. Actually, whereas 2,270 km were built in 1979, this figure increased appreciably in the past few years: 3,700 km in 1981 and 5,000 km in 1982.

Taking into account the previsions for 1983-1984 (14,450 km), the total realized under the five-year plan (1980-1984) would amount to 26,000 km, i.e. two and half time as much as from 1962 to 1978.

The intensification of efforts required will tax the governorate companies which must bear the cost of a share estimated at over 2,000 km during 1983-1984.

In addition, as part of the reorganization of SONELGAZ [National Electricity and Gas Company], a new company (KHARIF [expansion unknown]) was created to complete the electrification of the country in accordance with government decisions, especially those concerning the increased rate of electrification in underprivileged governorates.

In this respect, we should point out that, in spite of the efforts made in favor of these governorates during the past few years, it has not been possible to reduce existing gaps, for several reasons, in particular the scattering of the centers to be electrified, which are selected by the governorates. Their selection was justified by the desire to distribute the amounts allocated in the budget equitably among the various communities, but this offered two major drawbacks: on the one hand, it would spread about the means of the enterprise, thus decreasing its efficiency and, on the other hand, it would understandably cause discontent among the populations living near the centers which were electrified.

To put a stop to this, provisions were made for mass electrification, i.e. from now on local authorities will choose a group of centers or villages located near one another (clusters).

Conditions Required

As far as the distribution of means of realization is concerned, a considerable effort will be made in favor of the most backward governorates; thus, 11 gover-

norates will benefit from over 50 percent of the global effort and are expected to reach a minimum rate of 70 percent by the end of 1983.

All the same, we should underline that the human means and the equipment made available to realize 14,450 km during the next two years will have to be accompanied by adequate efforts on the part of the national companies which manufacture the equipment (metallic and concrete support structures, conductors, etc.) used in electric construction.

Although conductors, transformers, meters, etc., can be imported to supplement temporarily the inadequacy of our national production, when it comes to concrete or metallic support structures, importation becomes more complex and should be avoided.

This is why the companies involved (SN METAL [National Metal Construction Company] for metallic support structures and ONAMHYD [National Office for Hydraulic Material] for concrete structures) will have to take measures to supply the quantities required by the electrification enterprises. As an indication, 120,000 such structures will be required per year.

In addition, this equipment (support structures, conductors, transformers, etc.), which represents tens of thousands of tons to be shipped, will also require a large number of means of transportation which must be made available to the enterprise as soon as possible.

Indeed, the realization of electrification will depend on the proper operation of the line involving the production, shipment and installation of power-line supports, and the failure of any elements along this line will result in considerable delay.

Therefore, measures must be taken by each operator (equipment manufacturing companies, transportation companies and electrification enterprises) to make sure that they fulfil their responsibilities according to schedule.

The completion of the country's electrification requires a commitment on the part of all national partners if it is to be carried out promptly according to schedule; it is a task of national interest which will improve the quality of life and the material well-being of our people.

9294

CSO: 4519/101

WEEKLY ON 'ARAFAT MEETING WITH SOLIDARITY DELEGATION

PM121457 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 4 Jan 83 p 10

[Unattributed report; "Abu 'Ammar Meets With Egyptian Solidarity Committee's Delegation"]

[Text] The delegation of the Egyptian Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committee met in Tunis last week with the Palestinian leader PLO Executive Committee chairman Yasir 'Arafat and a number of other Palestinian leaders. The Egyptian delegation, which consisted of Egyptian Solidarity Committee Secretary General Ahmad Hamrush, committee member and former Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr Murad Ghalib, and American University of Cairo Professor Dr Sa'd al-Din Ibrahim, discussed with the Palestinian leader the latest developments affecting the Palestinian question and PLO-Egyptian relations.

Abu 'Ammar ['Arafat] told the Egyptian delegation that Egypt's return to the Arab fold is one of the PLO's top priorities at this stage. He added: This is why I lay down no conditions for visiting Egypt and wish the visit to take place as soon as possible. I also wish that Egypt will one day soon assume the leadership of the Arab nation again.

The Palestinian leader also said: We were extremely happy when we heard about President Husni Mubarak's statement that Egypt was willing to receive any number of Palestinian fighters. We felt confident that Egypt was on our side with all its weight. However, our happiness was short-lived because 2 days after that statement was made it was announced that Egypt would not accept Palestinian fighters.

Abu 'Ammar added: I highly respect and appreciate President Mubarak and I am confident that the first decision to receive the fighters was his own. I do not doubt for one moment his patriotism and loyalty to the Palestinian and Arab causes. I also fully understand the circumstances and the internal and external pressures under which he works.

'Arafat recalled that when he met with Pakistani President Ziaul Haq in Moscow during Brezhnev's funeral, Ziaul Haq asked him to explain the Palestinian position well to him because he was going to meet with U.S. President Reagan and would try to explain the Palestinian position to Reagan. So, 'Arafat said,

it would not be too much for Mubarak to meet with him before seeing the U.S. President and to accurately convey the Palestinian position to the U.S. President.

Referring to the inconveniences to which some Palestinian students in Egypt are subjected--a problem raised by some Palestinian leaders with the Egyptian Solidarity Committee--Abu 'Ammar said that he is not concerned or worried about these little problems and that what matters to him is how to pave the way for Egypt's return to the Arab fold.

On the general Arab attitude, the Palestinian leader said: All the Arab regimes let us down in Beirut and as a result Israel dictated its terms that we be made to leave Beirut and be dispersed in the Arab countries. This, however, will not prevent us from struggling to regain our usurped rights and liberate our territory.

Abu 'Ammar added: The Beirut battle gave us more self-confidence because it proved that Israel was much weaker than we imagined and that it was possible to defeat it militarily. We also obtained many military secrets about Israeli military plans and tactics and weaknesses in the Israeli weaponry. All these secrets are at the disposal of the Egyptian Army whenever it is interested.

At the end of the meeting 'Arafat asked the delegation of the Egyptian Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committee to hold meetings with the leaders of the Egyptian opposition parties and explain to them the Palestinian position accurately so that there is no contradiction between the attitude of these parties and the attitude of the PLO.

CSO: 4500/55

INTERVIEW WITH EGYPTIAN PRIME MINISTER

GF071500 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 6 Jan 83 pp 21, 23

[Interview with Egyptian Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi al-Din by Muhammad Yunis —date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Egypt's political experience with regard to parties and opposition during the past and present stages had its negative and positive aspects. How do you assess these stages and the trends that are likely to develop in the next stage, bearing in mind that there are those who fear that there will be an end to official opposition in the next stage?

[Answer] There is no fear that opposition will end on the official level. The constitution provides for the continuation of the opposition. Article 5 of the constitution states that we have a multiparty system in Egypt. Therefore, the principle of a multiparty system is constitutional and must be respected. It is carrying out its role in the desired manner. Every new practice has its negative and positive points when applied. Platforms formed the nucleus of parties.

Undoubtedly, during the first stage there were some mistakes and difficulties in implementation which led some people not to be thorough in their study of the environment and of the conditions that led to the adoption of this or that decision or policy. However, if everyone seeks the interest of Egypt and the Arab nation and is working to bring about a respect of the law and the constitution, then there is no doubt that the exchange of views and giving an opportunity for other views to be heard and listening to such views is beneficial to any responsible government that wants to listen to or respond to a view that differs with that policy so that it can be sure that what it is doing is sound or change its measures.

Therefore, ever since President Husni Mubarak took office we in general have been pursuing a course to serve Egypt and the Arab nation, a positive course that has its characteristics. Among these clear characteristics are the democratic forces. Therefore, we take pride in this practice and wish it further success.

[Question] Lately the opposition has been launching a campaign against you. Why this concentration on you in particular and what alternative has the opposition put forward?

[Answer] Your reference to the personal campaign against me means that you have been following our local press. This means that you have noticed that I have not replied to any article or report about me that has been published. This is my approach. I believe that work is the natural, effective and positive response to the campaign. I do not know the reason for such a campaign and I do not wish to enter into side battles. You notice that the campaign to which you refer has now abated. It is not beneficial that I should respond to everyone who writes an article or publishes a report. The facts of my life, my history and the people's knowledge of me are quite adequate for public opinion in Egypt and abroad and for those who know me. This has always been, and continues to be, my policy. As to what is their purpose in waging such a campaign, perhaps they are better able to answer than I.

[Question] Where has your government succeeded and where has it failed?

[Answer] It has succeeded in establishing the precepts I have mentioned: purity, and the citizens' feeling that there is a government capable of confronting corruption and that everyone in authority is opposing and combating corruption. This is very important for the people.

Secondly, there is no improvisation in our work. It is serious and preplanned work based on a development plan. I am pleased that the National Democratic Party has approved the framework of the development plan which is currently being discussed by the people's assembly. In this way we can say that we are pursuing a genuinely scientific approach.

[Question] It is being said abroad that there are many currents in Egypt and that these currents are in conflict with each other to assert their presence and then to monopolize power. What are the most prominent currents and how dangerous are they?

[Answer] I do not know exactly what you mean by currents. There are now in Egypt three declared legal parties that are carrying out their constitutional role in accordance with the law and the constitution: the Socialist Labor Party, the Liberal Socialist Party and the National Democratic Party. There are no problems or difficulties. As for the illegal currents the security forces are confronting them. If there is a Marxist current it is weak and has no influence. There are no terrorist groups that bother the authorities. The fact is that ever since what happened in October 1981 and the Dais incident [Al-Sadat's assassination] law and order have totally prevailed in Egypt. There are no currents in the sense to which your question refers.

[Question] It is being said that the centers of power have reemerged in Egypt and that President Mubarak's era has actually begun a short while ago, and that what is happening now means the consolidation of this era and that it is drawing some of its features and trends from the eras of the two late presidents Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir and Anwar al-Sadat. What is your view?

[Answer] This is a constitutional era in which a responsible constitutional government respects the constitution and in which there are opposition parties. There is no center of power; it cannot be considered a center of power

unless it is illegal and unconstitutional. However, if there are constitutional parties and a constitutional press that operates within the law and men working in their respective positions on the political map according to the law--whenever anyone makes a mistake he is taken to court according to the law--then there are no centers of power.

The centers of power are those that impose themselves on the regime and become above the law, masters of the law. This does not exist in Egypt now. We cannot say that there are centers of power in Egypt now. All citizens in Egypt are equal before the law.

With regard to the second part of the question, every president has his own personality and character, and his regime is likely to be affected by his character. These things happen all over the world. It is natural. Historically, how has the personality of Husni Mubarak been formed, how has his thinking formed? He lived through the 23 July [1952] stage and through the 1970s. His thinking was formed by his reading and by living through these two stages. All this has been digested and emerged in a distinct personality, the personality of Husni Mubarak through which he rules.

[Question] 'Isamat al-Sadat's case has provoked many reactions, both at home and abroad. Some people view it as a trial of the previous regime. What do you say about this?

[Answer] Why this generalization, why a trial of the previous regime? Hundreds, indeed thousands, of men have worked in the previous regime. Is this not so? The fact that one person is on trial, and his case is being judged by the court of ethics, and the socialist prosecutor has evidence against some of those who violated the law as stated in the charges sheet, is an individual case. The fact that one, two or three persons have transgressed against the law cannot be generalized and taken to mean that everyone who worked for the regime transgressed against the law. For instance, in the United States Vice President Spiro [Agnew] was attacked and sacked, and Nixon was impeached because of a case. This does not affect the entire regime but concerns a particular individual who transgressed against the law.

[Question] There are many rumors in Egypt. The man in the street is talking about many things that happened in the past. Some people point accusingly at some ministers and their involvement in 'Isamat al-Sadat's case and other similar cases that have not been unmasked. Can you, Mr Prime Minister, clarify the picture so as to avoid the intensification of rumors?

[Answer] The law is above all. I cannot comment on such rumors, or on anything that is subjudice. All procedures take their normal course according to the law. I have no further comment.

[Question] Does the economic situation constitute a threat to Egypt's structure, particularly as Egypt's debts exceed \$13 billion. How can these burdens and what should the Arab countries do in this regard? [as received]

[Answer] Egypt's debts of \$13 billion are not much when compared with the debts of many other countries. Their ratio to the Egyptian economy and the national income is a very reasonable ratio. The World Bank has revised its calculations and announced that there are 30 countries that suffer from an imbalance in their economies, and thank God Egypt was not among them. This means that Egypt's economy is reasonable and suitable when compared with the size of population. Most countries have economic problems: Poland, Argentina, Mexico, the Soviet Union, Romania and others.

We do have economic problems and we will solve them by developing the 5-year plan. Investment stands at \$4.5 billion and there is no shortage of investors. Our Arab brothers have participated in 17 percent of this investment despite the political boycott. Also despite the boycott Arab tourism to Egypt is 50 percent of all tourism in the country. With regard to Arab investors, the door is open to everyone. We are still pursuing this policy, the open-door policy.

[Question] Arab, and in particular Gulf, investors are still hesitant in deciding whether they should reinvest in Egypt or not. Investments have not been given an adequate opportunity. What can Egypt do to guarantee Gulf investments?

[Answer] Why are they hesitant? That is the question. We offer many advantages. Egypt is a country of security and guarantees. As you know Arab capital is invested in foreign banks and companies. In Egypt, thank God, our constitution prohibits expropriation and nationalization. The security situation is stable; experiences have been successful and rewarding and dividends have been good. Those who have come here have been and ascertained all this. There are still opportunities for our Arab brothers to invest. We encourage our brothers in the Gulf to do so. Many brothers have come here and I have met some of them, while others have met with the ministers concerned. I hope that in the future joint investment ventures will be concluded in Egypt.

[Question] Why hasn't a vice president been chosen, although from the time of the revolution Egypt has always had a vice president?

[Answer] The choice of a vice president is a right which the constitution has given to the president who is entitled to exercise this right at a time of his own choosing--the constitution has not specified a period of time within which the president has to choose a vice president, but leaves this matter to the president.

[Question] Some sources say that there are differences in view between President Mubarak and Dr Fu'ad Muhyi al-Din. What is the truth?

[Answer] There have been absolutely no such differences on any issue whatsoever.

[Question] In the present circumstances which the Arab nation is experiencing, why has not Egypt returned to the Arabs, or why have not the Arabs

returned to Egypt? Is it true that the United States is trying to prevent such a return that will contribute toward strengthening the Arab situation?

[Answer] I hope you will address the first part of your question to our Arab brothers. We on our part are open to the world. There are unofficial relations with the Arab brothers. There are contacts, visits and consultations with many Arab brothers, and everyone knows this. Whenever anyone takes a step we bless it and contribute to it. Why are not such steps translated diplomatically? I hope the Arab brothers will reply in the manner they see fit.

[Question] Will you address an official invitation to Yasir 'Arafat to visit Egypt, and at what time?

[Answer] Egypt is open to Brother Abu 'Ammar at any time he wants to come, without invitation. If he wishes to come he is very welcome.

[Question] What is the effect of Abu 'Ammar's visit on the peace treaty with Israel?

[Answer] It does not have any effect at all.

[Question] Is it true that the United States has asked an Arab country to invest \$40 billion in Egypt, and that the Arab country asked for a political price in return, and that it finally placed some conditions on investing such a sum?

[Answer] I am unaware of this.

[Question] How far has integration with the Sudan gone? Are there any new steps that will be taken on the political and economic levels?

[Answer] We have completed the first phase in integration. We have appointed a secretary general for the integration fund, a secretary and assistant secretary generals. There will be an exchange of visits among the officials concerned in Egypt and Sudan next week. There will also be an exchange of capital between Egypt and Sudan. These are well studied steps.

Investment in projects in Egypt and Sudan and the benefit that the two countries reap from such projects and the participation of the World Bank and Arab and foreign countries is the objective of establishing the integration fund. We are optimistic on the future of this integration.

[Question] Throughout history Sinai has proved that it is the gate through which invaders pass, and that the best way to defend Sinai is to build on it. How far has reconstruction gone in Sinai?

[Answer] We have set up a higher council for the reconstruction of Sinai. There is a fund and there is a 5-year plan for this purpose. The construction of Sinai depends on water--subterranean water or the transport of Nile water to Sinai. The construction of coastal towns and villages, telephones, housing and industries are currently under study. We attach special attention to

Sinai and to its special development. It enjoys special care distinct from that given to other Egyptian governorates. Its colonization and construction is linked to the possibility of providing and transporting water and to agriculture. As part of the construction plan we have built two tunnels [between the East and West sides of the Suez Canal], one of which is the Martyr Ahmad Hamdi tunnel.

[Question] There are rumors that the Martyr Ahmad Hamdi tunnel was built contrary to specifications and that it is in danger?

[Answer] We invite those who say this to visit the tunnel and see for themselves the precision and soundness of the tunnel's construction.

[Question] We want from you news or good tidings which we can herald to Egyptians abroad, and then to Egyptians at home?

[Answer] On the anniversary of the prophet's birthday and the New Year I hope that God will unite the Arab nation in doing good, and that he will achieve their hope for a just and comprehensive peace, and that the actions of all of us will be realistic and serious so that we can achieve this hope for every Arab everywhere in our Arab homeland.

CSO: 4500/55

'AL-AHRAM' EDITOR REACTS TO 'ARAFAT INTERVIEW

NC071115 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 7 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA)--AL-AHRAM chief editor Ibrahim Nafi' has described the interview which PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat recently granted to the Egyptian magazine AL-MUSAWWAR as a positive sign which has returned to the Arab and Palestinian arena after a long absence and after bitter experiences of convulsions and outbiddings.

In his weekly article published today under the headline "A Dialogue From a Distance With 'Arafat," Nafi' says it is the right of 'Arafat and the Palestinians that we listen to them and agree with them on what we consider to be just and right and disagree with them on what we consider otherwise. It is the Palestinians' right to agree and disagree with us without the disagreement in views undermining the issue, particularly if the matter pertains to peoples' causes and fates.

AL-AHRAM's chief editor said he disagrees with some of the opinions 'Arafat expressed in the interview with AL-MUSAWWAR, which the article writer described as opinions which some times hide behind emotional gestures and warm references to Egypt and the love of Egypt and the role of Egypt.

Commenting on 'Arafat's call to Egypt to stand with all its weight on the side of the Palestinian issue, Nafi' affirmed that Egypt has never abandoned the Palestinian issue at any time. Egypt's efforts on the international arena, the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement and the West European states are not secret to anyone.

He added in this regard that this is not the time to enumerate what Egypt has contributed to the Palestinian cause and is still contributing and upholding out of its belief that the Palestinian issue is the key to peace in the Middle East and is a pan-Arab issue as well as an Egyptian Arab issue.

AL-AHRAM's chief editor asks: Hasn't Egypt sought with a clear-cut strategy to achieve a permanent solution to the Palestinian problem and wasn't the October war its first step on the way to a (?peaceful) solution? Wasn't Egypt faced with rejection in every one of its steps on the way to a solution, even in the step of the historic October war? Didn't the PLO refuse to join

Egypt on the path of a final and just solution from the beginning when the opportunity existed for that?

The writer explains that the PLO joined the champions of steadfastness, confrontation, talk and slogans against Egypt. The PLO continued to be deceived by illusions until the catastrophe in Lebanon took place. Then the organization became convinced of its error and came back to accept everything it had rejected. It accepted Reagan's peace initiative, which is based on Camp David accords, and accepted the Fes initiative which does not differ from the Fahd initiative which it rejected at first.

Regarding 'Arafat's call for the adoption of a historic, dramatic step, Nafi' points out that if 'Arafat means by this step tearing up the Camp David accords, the Camp David accords and the Egyptian peace treaty still constitute today the only Israeli commitment on the need to solve the issue in a comprehensive and just manner and the first and only step which must be followed by other steps toward the recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination and the establishment of self-rule for them.

He says: If Yasir 'Arafat means that Egypt should tear up the Camp David accords and the peace treaty with Israel, how could this step, which has not been raised as far as Egypt is concerned, be a step on the way to a comprehensive solution of the Palestinian issue which Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], before anyone else, thinks it is impossible to achieve except through comprehensive and just peace in the area--that is, through the peaceful efforts and not through war under the international conditions and changes of which the PLO chairman is well aware.

Nafi' adds that an element of new strength has been added to Egypt's strength after the peace agreement, which is the disappearance of Israeli occupation from its territory. This element, in the final analysis, is in the interest of the Palestinian issue and adds much to Egypt's ability when it demands Palestinian rights.

On 'Arafat's saying the Arabs speak about peace without endeavoring to build an Arab force capable of preserving peace, Ibrahim Nafi' says: If that is true, why did the Arabs, foremost the PLO, hasten at the Baghdad conference to attack and criticize the only Arab force capable of maintaining comprehensive peace--if it had been achieved--namely Egypt. Why did they stop their military and economic aid to Egypt?

The editor adds that the Arabs hastened as well to dissolve the Arab organization for industrialization, believing that they are punishing Egypt while they were punishing themselves in terms of obstructing the establishment of the nucleus of advanced Arab weapons which would have added more to their capabilities than Egypt's. Ibrahim Nafi' inquires: Why did the PLO agree on depriving the Arabs of Egypt's power and of the power of Arab-built weapons? He says: Egyptian-built weapons and ammunition are helping Iraq in its steadfastness and Morocco in confronting the repeated aggressions against it.

On Abu 'Ammar's insinuation that Israel may suddenly raid Sinai, AL-AHRAM's chief editor affirms that Egypt did not stint for a minute in completing

and building its military capability and that Egypt believes in the necessity of having an Egyptian force capable of defending its territories while believing in the fact that Egypt's force is for safeguarding and preserving peace and not for attacking others.

Commenting on Yasir 'Arafat's wonder why Israel did not withdraw from the Gaza Strip as it did from the Saudi Tiran and Sanafir Islands, which were Egyptian control, Ibrahim Nafi' says departed President Al-Sadat preferred that the Palestinian autonomy process should start with the Gaza Strip and be followed by the West Bank in the second phase, but the PLO rejected this step. How could Egypt place the Gaza Strip under its control now?

In reply to Abu 'Ammar's saying President Mubarak has inherited a situation which he is not to blame for, AL-AHRAM's chief editor says President Mubarak has inherited an Egyptian popular choice for peace and that he declared since the first day of his presidency that Egypt's policy is to abide by its treaties and international pledges, foremost of which is this popular national choice for peace. Meanwhile, he did not hesitate in declaring Egypt's clear Arab policy toward Palestinian rights.

On Yasir 'Arafat's insinuation of promised Arab aid to Egypt and linking them to Egypt's cancellation of the peace treaty, Ibrahim Nafi' affirms that Egypt does not accept that anyone may influence its national policy and does not accept preconditional aid from any country in the world. He said neither Arab nor non-Arab money can influence Egypt to adopt policies that do not comply with its national interests, particularly if these policies do not serve the sublime national Arab interest.

Commenting on 'Arafat's call to Egypt to tell everybody "hands off the Palestinians," Ibrahim Nafi's says Egypt will not cease to issue this appeal and to adhere to it. Moreover, Egypt calls on the Palestinians to take their issue in their own hands and not to allow Arab differences to reflect on their movement, deflect their efforts and disperse their potential.

Answering Abu 'Ammar's statement that Egyptian-Israeli peace has come at the expense of the Palestinians, Nafi's says Egyptian-Israeli peace has not been and will not be at the expense of the Palestinians but has been essentially a step on the road to a comprehensive solution of the Palestinian issue. Even Syria can join the framework for peace which Egypt has reached if it abandons the illusions and fantasies of leadership and steadfastness.

The writer adds that as everyone admits, the peace treaty remains the bomb which has exploded within Israeli society and which has caused several interactions which have given rise to the expansion of the peace movement in Israel and to demonstrations by hundreds of thousands of peoples in Israel against the Sabra and Shatila massacres and the invasion of Lebanon.

Concluding his article, Ibrahim Nafi's addresses Yasir 'Arafat saying: Egypt is Egypt what ever happens. Therefore, I blame you [words indistinct] for hinting that there is some kind of Palestinian mediation between Egypt and the Arabs. Egypt's relationship with the Arabs does not need anyone's mediation. This relationship exists and will continue to exist despite the clouds that hang overhead.

CSO: 4500/55

BRIEFS

MUBARAK REPLIES TO POPE SHINUDAH—Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following congratulatory cable on the occasion of the New Year to His Holiness Pope Shinudah in reply to his cable: His Holiness Pope Shinudah III: I have received with appreciation your cable on the occasion of the New Year, in which you express your aspirations for our beloved country and your good wishes to its one people with all its communities and factions. Rightly, the source of our glory and pride is that this noble people have proved, in all cases, their outstanding capability to safeguard their social cohesion, religious forbearance, ideology and national unity and to reject calls for division, sedition and fanaticism, out of their profound belief in the common interest and destiny and their adherence to the principle of equality in rights and duties, because the homeland belongs to all of us and it is our objective and commitment from which we will not deviate. We ask God to grant us wisdom to do the right things, grant us strength, purify our hearts and consolidate our march on the road to right, justice and peace. [Text] [NC071630 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 7 Jan 83]

REPRESENTATIVE TO COPTIC MASS—Cairo, 7 Jan (MENA)—Bishop Gregorios, member of the papal committee heading the Coptic Orthodox Church, led holy mass at Saint Mark's cathedral last night in celebration of Christmas, according to the Coptic calendar. President Husni Mubarak delegated the secretary-general of the presidency, 'Abd al-Mun'im Salim, to attend the celebration on his behalf. In his sermon, Bishop Gregorios paid tribute to President Mubarak's internal and external policy, in safeguarding national unity and in endeavouring for Middle East peace. [Text] [NC071634 Cairo MENA in English 1615 GMT 7 Jan 83]

TRADE DISCUSSED WITH CUBA—Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA)—Minister of Supply and Internal Trade Ahmad Nuh conferred here today with the ambassador of Cuba on means of boosting trade ties between the two countries. They also discussed the possibility to supply Egypt with additional quantities of Cuban sugar in addition to importing frozen fish as well. The ambassador submitted his country's request to import textiles and Egyptian cotton. [Text] [NC081508 Cairo MENA in English 1430 GMT 8 Jan 83]

'ISMAT AS-SADAT'S HOLDINGS' VALUE--Cairo, Jan 6 (MENA)--The socialist public prosecutor announced today that the assets of 'Ismat As-Sadat, brother of former president Anwar As-Sadat, who is held on the charge of illicit gain, and his family are valued at 24,132,680 Egyptian pounds (about same dollars). The prosecutor had issued an order placing in lien the assets of 'Ismat As-Sadat, his two wives and 25 other relatives "for having amassed illicit gain and committed offenses jeopardizing the country's economic interests." The court of ethics will open on Sunday, the case brought against the family by the Socialist public prosecutor, 'Abd Al-Qadir Ahmad 'Ali, to put the assets in question under sequestration. The assets of 'Ismat As-Sadat and his family include liquid funds, lands, real estate property, vehicles and gold objects. [Text] [NC061606 Cairo MENA in English 1410 GMT 6 Jan 83]

CSO: 4500/52

TUNISIA

BRIEFS

ISLAMIC COUNCIL FOR CIVIL AVIATION--Jidda, 6 Jan, SPA--Tunisia today formally joined the Islamic Council for Civil Aviation by signing an agreement to become one of its members. The agreement was signed by Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Es-Sebsi and Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) Secretary General Habib Chatti. The third Islamic summit held in Al-Ta'if in January 1981 recommended the setting up of the council with its headquarters in Tunis to enhance cooperation between ICO member states in civil aviation. Following the signing of the agreement, Mr Chatti praised Tunisia's consistent aid and support for the ICO ever since its formation. For his part, Mr Es-Sebsi said his country was pleased to join the council and thanked the ICO for providing aid to Tunisia during recent floods and torrential rains which swept some parts of the country. Mr Es-Sebsi also had talks here with Mr Chatti on ICO-Tunisian relations, latest Arab developments and Islamic issues of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by Tunisian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Kacem Bousnina. [Text] [LD062100 Riyadh SPA in English 1957 GMT 6 Jan 83]

CSO: 4500/54

UNIFIL COMPLAINS IDF RESTRICTS MOVEMENT

TA290850 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Dec 82

[Text] The United Nations force in southern Lebanon is one of the disputed issues in the talks between Israel and Lebanon. Israel opposes the continued presence of the force, the United States supports extending its mandate, and Lebanon is still grappling with the matter. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that in the field, UNIFIL is making every effort to show how urgently it is needed, while its commanders vigorously protest Israel's lack of cooperation:

[Hecht—live or recorded] In recent weeks, the IDF has imposed severe restrictions on movement, UNIFIL Commander General Callaghan said at a parade in honor of the force's Swedish medical unit. When we tried to find out why we were being prevented from moving freely, the general continued, we received vague and strange answers. Your ambassador is not participating in the ceremony, he informed the Swedish soldiers, because the IDF did not allow the UNIFIL helicopter to fly him from Beirut. At the UNIFIL headquarters in Al-Naqrurah it has been reported that over the past several weeks, the IDF cancelled 70 UNIFIL helicopter flights. A senior officer from the force said that the cancellations are arbitrary and biased. The IDF has called this charge ridiculous. Even our helicopters do not fly in this area when and where they want to. The restrictions do indeed exist, but they result simply from the overloading of the area's flight routes.

The attempts by UNIFIL officers to enter Tyre and Sidon have met with a lack of help from the IDF, to put it mildly. Israel regards these attempts as part of a trend to enlarge the force's sphere of influence, using the ample money of aid funds. The UNIFIL spokesman said: We came to Sidon to buy gas and vegetables. This is not the UNIFIL's mandate area, they have nothing to look for in Sidon, and the IDF sees no reason to help them in these areas, it has been made unequivocally clear to the UN force's commanders. All of General Callaghan's claims, the IDF has stressed, refer to problems outside UNIFIL's mandate in southern Lebanon.

CSO: 4400/151

'YEDI'OT AHARONOT' INTERVIEWS CAMILLE, DANI SHAM'UN

TA241653 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Dec 82 p 13 Weekend Supplement

[Report on interview with former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un and his son, Dani Sham'un, by London correspondent Yohanan Lahav in London "last weekend"]

[Excerpt] The former president takes a favorable view of the U.S. activity in the region, and expresses no reservations about the attempt to impose a "pax Americana." He believes that if the United States is successful in its current talks with King Husayn, its chances of obtaining what they want in the area will increase.

"The Americans do not have to persuade Israel with withdrawal from Lebanese territory," Camille Sham'un states. "They must help us get the Syrians and the PLO to withdraw." Still, he believes that Syria would actually pull back in 1983. "By midyear, I believe Lebanon will be free of all foreign forces stationed on its soil."

Question: Are they really that much in a hurry? Could the Lebanese Army overcome all enemies inside the country if the IDF rushes to pull out? Or are you waiting for the marines to fulfill all the roles the Israeli Army is currently fulfilling? You must remember that the U.S. soldiers are not allowed to shoot?

The former president did not even let me finish my question. Interrupting me time and time again, he said: "We are ready, we are capable. Once the foreigners get out, we will know how to rule our own land. There will not be any militias to fight against us. The Palestinians will be in camps."

"Until then," his son adds, "the Israeli Army must put an end to the bloodshed in the Ash-shuf mountains, at once. "You can do this even today," the father completes his son's remarks. "Moreover, you must do so in accordance with international law."

The new Lebanese Army, the two believe, will not find it difficult to control southern Lebanon and prevent terrorist activity in Israel.

Question: As such an army, why should a role not be given to one Lebanese fighter who never laid down arms while others cooperated with the Syrians and the PLO?

The two Sham'un's agree that not only should Major Haddad be "the commander of the south" of Lebanon, but they even express their opinion that "this would actually happen." He was sent to fulfill a role, he has done it and continues to do his job with excellence. Although he was suspended from the army, he was not discharged.

CSO: 4400/151

AMAL LEADER PESSIMISTIC OVER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

NC041126 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 3-9 Jan 83 pp 42-46

[Interview granted by Amal movement leader Nabih Berri to MONDAY MORNING correspondent Mona al-Sa'id "last week"--place not given]

[Excerpts] Nabih Birri, leader of the predominantly Shi'ite Amal movement, stated last week that Israel was trying to organize "village committees" in south Lebanon similar to the "village leagues" it has organized in the West Bank.

The Israelis, he added in an interview with MONDAY MORNING, had also arrested and were holding "tens" of non-partisan southern personalities, their only justification appearing to be to strip the south of its leadership as the first step toward turning it into an "Israeli protectorate."

Charging that the Israelis were already imposing taxes on the south Lebanese, Birri said the information at his disposal indicated that Israeli work on the exploitation of the waters of the Litani River had started.

Speaking as the Lebanese-Israeli talks were getting under way, Berri said he was not merely "unoptimistic" about the prospects of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon--I'm downright pessimistic," he said.

Only Lebanese unity could impose Lebanon's will and lead to an Israeli withdrawal, Berri said, and the Lebanese unity was nowhere in sight as the fighting in the mountains was already spreading toward Beirut's southern suburbs--thanks to the abundance of "illegal arms" in the hands of the people.

For a month now, Birri said, members of the Shi'ite community in the southern suburbs of the capital had been the victims of a variety of attacks--starting with planted bombs and ending with a chain of kidnappings.

Around 20 people had been kidnaped in the southern suburbs so far, Birri said, and he appealed to the Lebanese authorities to collect the "illegal arms" from all parties before the situation got out of hand.

He knew, he said, that Israel wanted the fighting to continue and escalate as the Lebanese-Israeli talks went on, but he added that knowing about a plot did not necessarily mean that you could avoid falling into the trap.

In an [word indistinct] reminder of the Lebanese civil war, he said: "Iman Musa al-Sadr (leader of the Lebanese Shi'ite community, who disappeared during a visit to Libya in 1978) sat in Hazmieh for eight months, refusing to fight and trying to get people together. He warned and warned about the conspiracy, but he finally found himself forced to protect his people and fall into the trap. I see us going through the same thing now."

"Tens of Lebanese personalities who belong to no party and have no political leanings have been arrested by the Israelis and are being held in the Ansar prison camp," Birri said. "The Israelis have released people from Japan, Bangladesh, Syria and many Palestinians, but they're still holding these Lebanese personalities."

"Take the village of Yatar alone: 26 personalities have been arrested there, and they still have not been released. We gave their names to the international committee of the Red Cross and to the American delegate here--the names of Dr Ali Sweidan's father, for instance, and Adel Sweidan's father, and so on--but they're still prisoners, and have been since the Israeli invasion. [as received]"

"All these people are 50, 60, 65 years old. They belong to no party and had nothing to do with the Palestinian resistance. Why are they being held? If it was only for interrogation, they wouldn't still be in Ansar after six or seven months. The only possible reason is that Israel is trying to rid the south of as much of its leadership as possible, to clear the way for the fulfillment of its ambitions in the south."

The same motive could be seen in Israel's gradual takeover of government offices in the south, Birri said. "It's like the man who shared his neighbor's bed and kept asking him to move over a little, until he had the bed all to himself and his neighbor was on the floor."

"They're going to the mukhtar and saying they want a committee formed in the village which would be responsible to them and would provide guards for the village. If the mukhtar and the villages refuse, the Israelis choose the villagers they want and order them to serve on the committee. Those who refuse to serve are harassed: constant detentions, interrogations and so on."

With all this happening, Birri said, it was no wonder that the international press was beginning to refer to south Lebanon as Israel's "north bank".

"When the invasion started Israel said all it wanted was a 45-kilometer security zone. Now it's talking about normalization, trade, tourism and treaties. If you look back at how the situation developed in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights, you will see the parallels and appreciate the danger Lebanon is facing."

Already, Birri said, "I have preliminary information indicating that the Israelis have started work on pumping the water of the Litani to Israel...."

Despite Israel's obvious designs on the south, Birri said, a united Lebanon would have the diplomatic power to bring about a total Israeli withdrawal.

But as things stand now, "I'm not merely unoptimistic about an Israeli withdrawal--I'm downright pessimistic," he said. "As long as the present internal fragmentation remains, I will be totally pessimistic...."

"Israel is determined to keep Lebanese sovereignty incomplete, and there is no way we can confront the Israelis in negotiations as long as we remain divided. The whole idea behind the war of attrition in the mountains is to keep Lebanon under pressure during the talks, the idea being that a person who is under pressure is likely to accept anything."

Birri said the hopes for Lebanese unity which his movement had when President Amin al-Jumayyil was elected unanimously had since been dashed.

"I will say it frankly through MONDAY MORNING: When all the Lebanese rallied around his excellency the president, a member of the Phalangist Party and the son of the Phalangist leader, we expected the Lebanese front to be transformed into a front grouping all the Lebanese in all their factions and sects--Christians, Druze, Sunnites and Shi'ites--and we expected illegal arms to be collected from everyone without exception.

"But neither our political nor our military expectations were fulfilled.

"Politically, we started hearing dangerous proposals about the future of Lebanon--proposals that we believe to be a threat to Lebanon's unity and Lebanon's fate. Still, we did not want to pour salt on the wound by rejecting the proposals publicly and starting a press battle of the kind that preceded the 1975 war. So I made a statement to the effect that there appeared to be some differences of view among the Lebanese, that such differences should not exist when Lebanon was about to start vital international negotiations, and that a national conference should be organized by the president to arrive at Lebanese unity. Many parties supported the proposal, and none opposed it to my knowledge, but no national conference was organized.

"Militarily, the illegal arms remain in the hands of the parties outside west Beirut, and those who are refusing to give them up are responsible for the fighting which is going on in the mountains today."

Birri rejected the argument that west Beirut parties were forced to lay down their arms by the Israelis and did not lay them down willingly.

"That is not true, especially in the southern suburbs, which are bigger than west Beirut and have more people than west Beirut," he said. "Amal, whose strength in the suburbs is not to be belittled, invited the Lebanese Army to take over 17 days before the Israelis entered the city--at a time when no one imagined that the Israelis would come in, since there were American guarantees that if the Palestinians moved out, the Israelis would stay out.

"In fact, Amal has always demanded that the army take over, and we do not regret giving up our arms, but when we invited the army to take over, we expected it to take over everywhere. Had it done that, what is happening in the mountains now would never have happened. And the only way to stop the fighting in the mountains is to collect all arms from all parties without exception. Everyone must submit to state authority. Only then can the Muslim live in peace with the Christian in the mountains and everywhere else.

"What are the arms for? Why the illegal barracks? Why the armed presence? If there were no illegal arms, I ask you, who would object to a Christian Lebanese going to the Ash-shuf or the southern suburbs, whether he is a Phalangist or anything else? If there are no illegal arms, there will be no illegal checkpoints and no one will feel threatened."

For weeks, Birri said, Amal had been warning that the fighting in the mountains could spread to the suburbs of Beirut, but no one had paid attention until the fighting did spread, hitting the Khaldah area just before the Lebanese-Israeli talks started.

But the effects of the illegal arms had been felt in the suburbs of Beirut even before Khaldah exploded, Berri said.

CSO: 4400/151

BRIEFS

CABINET TO BE RESHUFFLED—Kuwait, 19 Dec (QNA)—Press reports here have indicated that a ministerial reshuffle will take place in Lebanon in which six new ministers will be added to the present cabinet. Reporting from Beirut, the Kuwait paper AL-WATAN noted that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has begun to hold closed meetings, in association with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, in order to expand the present Lebanese Government so that every ministry will have its own minister, because of the practice of one minister running two ministries has proven to be a failure. [Text] [GF191102 Doha QNA in Arabic 0950 GMT 19 Dec 82]

PROTECTION FOR JUNBLATT—London, 6 Jan (MENA)—The Arabic-language magazine AL-MAJALLAH, which is published in London, today reports that the leader of the Lebanese Progressive Movement, Walid Junblatt, has received a guarantee from a high-ranking Lebanese official to defend him and that was the reason he returned to Beirut recently. The magazine says that a high-ranking Lebanese personality was the one to encourage Junblatt to return. The magazine points out that several American and European quarters advised Junblatt after the attempt to assassinate him and blow up his car to stay outside the country for some time. [Text] [NC062204 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Jan 83]

RAIDS IN SOUTHERN SUBURB—Since 0600 [0400 GMT] today, the Lebanese Army has carried out raids in the southern suburb in search of arms, suspects and illegal residents. The inhabitants of the suburb have been prevented from leaving it until the operation was over. The army command was issued the following statement on these raids: in view of the fact that some groups have been planning acts breaching state security, the army was requested on 6 January to raid and detain suspects in the southern suburb, with the approval of the military public prosecution. All the detainees and all that has been confiscated have been referred to the military public prosecution which will decide on them within the legal period. We have learned that the raid operation ended at 1215 and roads leading to the southern suburb have been reopened. [Text] [NC061244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jan 83]

SOUTHERN SUBURB DETAINEES—The operations carried out by the Lebanese Army in the southern suburb of Beirut today resulted in the arrest of 7 Lebanese and 29 non-Lebanese. Commenting on the operations, Shaykh As'ad Jarmanus, the government's commissioner at the military court, this evening made a statement

in which he said: As a result of the security operations carried out by the Lebanese Army in the southern suburb, a large quantity of explosives and booby-trap materials were confiscated from non-Lebanese persons who had infiltrated the area. Seven Lebanese wanted for judicial crimes and 29 non-Lebanese were detained. Eleven persons, most of them Lebanese, were released. Investigations are continuing. He added: Such actions are conducted to protect the safety and security of the citizens. [Text] [NC061936 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 6 Jan 83]

SARKIS ANSWERS 'ARAFAT CHARGES--Former President Ilyas Sarkis today said: My attitude toward my homeland is judged only by my compatriots and no one else. This was contained in Sarkis' reply, for the first time since he left power, to the charges leveled to him by Yasir 'Arafat. Sarkis regarded these charges as being within the framework of overbiddings, randomly leveling accusation and evading responsibility. Sarkis affirmed that what happened in Lebanon has not been unexpected and all the Arab states should shoulder its consequences. [Text] [NC081903 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1645 GMT 8 Jan 83]

SHAYKHANI MEETS PRESS--Information Minister Roger Shaykhani met this morning with newsmen and editors Doyens Muhammad al-Ba'labakki and Milhim Karam. The talks centered on the role of the press and the great responsibility the press must shoulder at this critical phase through which Lebanon is passing. Minister Shaykhani pointed to some articles and commentaries recently published in the Lebanese press which could harm Lebanon's stand in handling the homeland's fateful questions. The minister of information stressed that the freedom of the press which the government is anxious to safeguard must be a weapon in serving the Lebanese question and in the fact with full objectivity, particularly in view of the misleading campaigns which aim at distorting the Lebanese stance. Doyens Al-Ba'labakki and Karam expressed complete understanding of the minister's statement and affirmed the eagerness of the press to practice freedom within the limits of national responsibility. They believed that the information media are carrying out its effective role in showing facts earnestly and truthfully in support of the government's stand. The two doyens affirmed that they will make the necessary contacts for further coordination which will ensure that the press will carry out its national duty completely.

CSO: 4400/151

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

CHAIRMAN ON GULF WAR, STREADFESTNESS FRONT

GF311534 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 30 Dec 82 p 23

[Interview with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium, by Marwan Hazin in Aden--date not tiven]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr Chairman, the Iraqi-Iranian war is now in its 27th month and there is no end to the war in sight. How do you view this abnormal situation in the area and how can it be changed?

[Answer] It is regrettable that the bloodshed between two neighboring Muslim countries should continue. Our country was foremost among the countries that called--from the time the war began--for an end to this destructive war, and for a resort to peaceful dialogue to resolve border and other disputes between Iraq and Iran. We believe that the imperialist and the Zionist forces are the principal parties that stand to benefit from the continuation of the war, a continuation that leads to the destruction of the resources of the two neighboring countries and keeping them away from the confrontation of the hostile challenges of the U.S.-Zionist alliance to our Arab and Muslim peoples. The continuation of the war serves U.S. plans that aim to fuel the hotbeds of tension in our region and create justifications for military intervention in order to control the resources and wealth of the peoples of the area.

[Question] Mr Chairman, the PDRY is among the few Arab countries that maintain good relations with Iran. How do you assess current events in Iran? Is there any coordination on any level between you and Iran?

[Answer] It is well known that during the shah's reign Iran was hostile to our country. It used to have relations with Israel and did not recognize the Palestinian people's rights. It fully supported the imperialist-Zionist strategy in the Middle East. Ever since the victory of the Islamic revolution the Islamic Republic of Iran has been pursuing an anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist policy. It severed its relations with Israel, recognized the PLO, supported--and continues to support--just Arab causes. The Iranian stand toward our country has also changed. Iran extended the hand of friendship to the PDRY. We appreciate this as well as understand it. At present relations between our two countries are normal and serve the interests of our two peoples and the interests of the Arab peoples.

[Question] In 1979 PDRY-Iraqi relations reached their lowest level, and then began to improve and there has been an exchange of ambassadors. How would you describe the PDRY's current relations with Iraq?

[Answer] Our relations with Iraq are normal and are based on understanding and joint cooperation that serves the interests of our peoples.

[Question] There have been reports that the steadfastness and confrontation front will hold a conference soon. Although such reports have been denied do you not believe that the front has exhausted its aims a long time ago, and that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon hastened its death?

[Answer] It is well known that the front is an expression of the rejection of the Arab masses of imperialist designs. The steadfastness of our Arab peoples in the face of imperialist and Zionist designs will not end, but will develop and take higher forms. As for the fact that the front has not yet met, this does not mean that there is a sense of failure or despair, or that the Arab masses will capitulate to Zionist plans and to hostile imperialist and Zionist designs. I firmly believe that the Arab situation requires increased confrontation of these conspiratorial designs. We need to attach great importance to this matter at present.

CSO: 4400/153

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

MINOR EARTHQUAKES—San'a', 9 Jan (WAKH)—Two new earthquakes hit Dhamar Province this morning, the first at 1055 and the second at 1100. The two earthquakes did not result in any material damage or casualties because they were slight. Sa'dah Province, 45 km north of San'a'a, was subjected to earthquakes early yesterday which did not result in any casualties. However, they resulted in cracks in some buildings and the village of Sakin sustained minor damage. [words indistinct] [Text] [GF091350 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Jan 83]

CSO: 4400/153

AFGHANISTAN

ANTI-AMERICAN MARCH DRAWS 200,000 IN KABUL

LD302032 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Excerpt] Meetings were held today in various parts of the country in support of the DRA Government statement, issued yesterday, and against the recent statement by Ronald Reagan, this arch-satan [words indistinct].

In a grand march and meeting attended by more than 200,000 toilers of Kabul city, including workers, peasants, tradesmen, members of social organizations and trade unions and members of Kabul city party committees, the people expressed once again their revulsion and hatred for Reagan and exposed the barbarous crimes and inhuman actions of U.S. imperialism.

This glorious march was led by Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan; Mahmud Barialay, candidate member and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; 'Abdozzohur Razmjy, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and secretary of the Kabul city party committee; members of the party's Central Committee, members of the National Fatherland Front Central Council, members of the DRA Ulema and clergy, members of the Islamic Affairs Department and members of social and party organizations of Kabul City.

Carrying with them thousands of slogans, placards and pictures of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, the marchers chanted: down with the U.S. imperialism; death to Reagan; down with the United States, this trigger of world war; down with the United States and its war accomplices; long live peace in the world; long live the PDPA. By chanting these slogans they raised the voice of opposition to U.S. imperialism and to the Reagan administration, both of which endanger international peace, shamelessly interfere in the internal affairs of our country and which have unleashed an undeclared war against our people and homeland.

After marching in the streets of Kabul City, the marchers held their meeting of opposition in front of the U.S. Embassy, in fact, the espionage center.

CSO: 4600/174

AFGHANISTAN

UNDECLARED WAR BY UNITED STATES CRITICIZED

LD050636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0426 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Kabul, 4 Jan (BAKHTAR)--"Washington's Efforts" is the heading of an editorial in the latest issue of DAILY ANIS. Below we give its summary:

When the [word indistinct] Democratic April Revolution succeeded by the zeal and heroic struggle of our people in Afghanistan, imperialism headed by the United States of America stood against our revolution. They started using all sort of [word indistinct] means making lies, propaganda, training and arming counterrevolutionaries bands and sending them to our country for subversive actions and killing people. By these means they have started an undeclared war against our independent and nonaligned country the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The American imperialism expanded undeclared war and anti-DRA strategy after the success of the evolutionary [as received] phase of April Revolution.

Now when the masses of people in Afghanistan support the aims and objectives of April Revolution specially its new and [word indistinct] evolutionary phase and backing their revolutionary party and state, the handful of the deceived country men are also coming to know the nature of American imperialism, reaction of the region and the counterrevolutionaries bands. Since Mr Reagan knows that the revolution of Afghanistan is invincible, he has started to behave madly and has openly declared in the name of "the American sympathy" with "the struggle of people" his continued backing for the criminals and counter-revolutionaries.

CSO: 4600/174

REPORT ON MEETINGS MARKING USSR ANNIVERSARY

LD230836 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 23 Dec 82

[Text] Kabul, 22 Dec (BAKHTAR)--Meetings and functions continued to be held today all over Afghanistan to mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR.

In Kabul a Chamber of Afghan-Soviet Friendship was opened in the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education by 'Abdol Majid Sarbland, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. The display of books in the Soviet library in Kabul has been visited every day by hundreds of party activists of Kabul city's party organisations and other people. A grand meeting was held in the Defense Ministry to celebrate the 60th year of the establishment of the USSR at which Major General Abdol Qader, alternate member of the Politburo of PDPA CC and minister of defence of the DRA spoke on the prospectus achievements of the Soviet Union in political, economic, social and cultural spheres during the past 60 years.

In the provinces of Mangarhar, Farrah, Herat and Kapisa several meetings were held to mark the 60th anniversary of the USSR. Great numbers of workers and other peoples had attended these meetings and speeches were delivered in connection with the role of the land of the soviets in the task of consolidation of peace and the Soviet support of freedom of world peoples as well as its aids to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the realisation of the ideals of April revolution.

In the hall of Microrayon Cinema a meeting was held by the Ministry of Public Works in which Minister of Public Works of the DRA Nazar Mohammad spoke on the traditional friendship between the peoples of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and cooperation in various economic and social fields with the revolutionary Afghanistan.

Officers, soldiers and students of the air force and air defence commandment [as received] also held a grand meeting yesterday to mark the 60th year of the establishment of the USSR. Several speakers shed light on the selfless and timely aid of the Soviet Union to the DRA.

The marble enterprise marked the day by opening a photo exhibition depicting the Soviet advancements in various fields.

In a meeting of the staff and workers of Pashtani Tejarati Bank Mehrabuddin Faktiawal [spelling of name as received], general president of the Afghanistan Bank, president of Pashtani Tejarati Bank and political head of the 52d brigade spoke on the occasion.

CSO: 4600/174

AFGHANISTAN

MUJAHIDIN, USSR POLICY DISCUSSED

LDO61642 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 6 Jan 83

[News analysis by 'Abd al-Rahman al-Zamil]

[Text] The Afghan Muslim Mujahidin have intensified their activity against the flagrant communist invasion of their country. Reports coming from battlefields said that 106 provinces and the subregions in Afghanistan have finally been freed and are now under the control of the Muslim Mujahidin. The area which they have liberated is 50-60 percent of Afghan territory as a result of the activity by resistance forces belonging to the Mujahidin which are carrying out their operations usually at night and sometimes in daylight in regions controlled by the communist government of Babrak Karmal.

Political observers and those who follow the Afghan crisis believe that the leaders of the Kremlin have suffered a big disappointment as a result of the inability of the Soviet Army to defeat the Afghan Islamic resistance and subduing Afghanistan to achieve complete Soviet control, something which made late President Leonid Brezhnev think about annexing the northern part situated between Hindu Kush Mountains without relying at all upon the army and his police organs to assist in defeating the 3-year-old resistance. General Cholan Sadiq Marati, the most senior military officer to flee Afghanistan to Pakistan, an officer of the Afghan intelligence, provided information on conditions in the USSR and the confusion of the Soviet advisers about the way to get out of the Afghan debacle. The KGB was angry with Brezhnev because he did not heed its advice in 1979 not to interfere in Afghanistan, interference which was opposed at that time by the present Soviet President Yuriy Andropov and Premier Aleksey Kosygin. At any rate, the Soviet leaders were wrong when they believed that it is easy to eliminate the Muslim Mujahidin, to occupy their Muslim neighbor and to transform it into a bridgehead for expansion southward. These calculations have proved totally wrong as hardly a day passes without the Soviet occupier suffering great losses in men and equipment.

International observers believe that the Afghan problem has become a major problem for the Soviet Union both at the financial level where it has suffered and at the diplomatic level where it has sustained losses. So the current President Andropov is eager to solve it as he wants to seek an improvement in his country's relations with communist China, which believes that the Afghan crisis is one of the obstacles to the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations.

CSO: 4600/174

IRANIAN MINISTER VISIT TO AFGHAN CAMPS ASSAILED

TA312002 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT
31 Dec 82

[Unattributed commentary: "A Worrisome Act"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: reportedly Mr 'Ali Akbar Nateq-nuri, who paid a visit to Pakistan, during this official visit inspected one of the camps of the Afghan fugitive counterrevolutionaries in an area by the name of (Nazbagh) near Peshawar, and made a speech before these murdering bands and U.S. mercenaries. It is said that in this provocative speech, which observers assess as gross interference in the affairs of the independent country of Afghanistan, Mr Nateq-nuri, the interior minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, called on the U.S. mercenaries and Afghan fugitive counterrevolutionaries to continue their struggles until final victory, and on behalf of the Iranian Government explained that the Islamic Republic of Iran's Government will continue its aid to the Afghan fugitives.

The fact that the representatives of world-devouring America, for example Brzezinski, or the representative of feeble British colonialism--Mrs Thatcher--or the representatives of the region's subservient regimes, in the course of their visits, inspect the camps of the Afghan fugitive counterrevolutionaries and provoke them into continuing their terrorist and subversive activities against the emancipated Afghan people and the independent government of Afghanistan is an issue understandable for everyone. But the fact that the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran--our homeland's interior minister--has taken the same path that the representatives of the imperialists had traversed, is inevitably not understandable to our homeland's people--a people who themselves are facing the plots of the imperialists and their mercenary counterrevolutionaries--and a cause of regret and concern.

Even if no one is aware, our Islamic Republic's officials are well aware what the nature of these professional killers is. In exposing the nature of these murdering bands it is sufficient that Hojjat ol-Eslam Mazari, leader of the (?Naft) organization of Afghanistan, has said: Those who have received weapons from abroad and are fighting each other were from among the Khans. These groups engage in robbery, and the government propagandizes that the Mojahedin are thieves.

Mr Mazari explained that the deviant groups who exploit the Islamic feature are not confined to the Sunni followers alone. Among them are both supporters of the West and (?believers).

Yes, these brigands and murderers, who unfortunately are supported by our country's interior minister, are persons who infiltrate into Afghanistan with U.S. arms like thieves. They steal in Afghanistan, set fire to mosques, schools and hospitals, and behead the mosque imams. Our homeland's people themselves have been and are witnessing and observing the criminal acts of the Afghan murdering bands in our country. According to the acknowledgement of the country's official authorities, about 200,000 of them are smugglers.

That our country's interior minister blantly and openly announced the Iranian Government's support for these brigands is tantamount to insulting the revolution and emasculating the face of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The people cannot accept that representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran be at the side of the Carters, the Reagans, the Thatchers, the Qabuses, the Saudis and the Ziaul Haqs.

It was only a few days ago that the leaders of the Afghan brigand, murdering and counterrevolutionary groups, namely the Khans, the Sardars and the expelled Afghan capitalists, once again approached Western governments, the United States, Britain and regimes such as Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and so forth, and requested them to increase their aid to the so-called Afghan Mojahedin. That these bands are maintained by the U.S. CIA, the British Intelligence Service and intelligence organizations, receive money from them, are armed by America and then are set upon the emancipated Afghan people is an issue that is obvious for everyone. In this case, the incorrect stance of the Islamic Republic's officials, or one of their wings, with regard to Afghanistan and the declaration of the Iranian Government's support for them is beneath the dignity of our nation's revolution. The people are expressing concern at this approach.

Support for U.S. mercenaries who implement America's plans with regard to Afghanistan under the mask of Islam is interference in the affairs of the country of Afghanistan. An end must be put to this act.

CSO: 4600/174

MINISTER CITED ON ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES

LD061816 Prague CTK in English 1521 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Report by Peter Frankl]

[Text] Kabul [no date as received] The Afghan counterrevolution also attempted among others to completely paralyze electricity supplies for Kabul but its plans have failed, Raz Mohammad Paktin, Afghan minister of [electric] energy has told CETEKA. Even though the terrorist actions caused break-downs in electricity supplies, the most significant areas were supplied smoothly.

Western propaganda described Kabul at the end of December, and not for the first time, as a black town. In fact, the thermal power station worked without interruption and the main public buildings were not without electricity for one minute.

What happened in fact? Kabul is supplied mainly from three main hydro-electric power plants--Sarubi, Naghlu and Mahipur [CTK spellings]. On December 25-27, the bandits destroyed the power lines from all the three stations by explosions. However, the lines from Naghlu and Sarubi were immediately repaired, only the line from Mahipur is not repaired yet, because of an inaccessible ground. This power station has the output of 66 megawatt, while the total output of Sarubi and Naghlu is 122 megawatt.

This sabotage arouses anger and indignation because electricity is also widely used for heating.

About 80 per cent of houses is supplied with energy at night, in the daytime the supplies are interrupted alternately to about half of the consumers. These problems, mainly in winter, are not new. The supplies are not sufficient for quickly growing Kabul.

The distributing network is obsolete and low charges were the reason that the inhabitants started to use electricity instead of wood and coal. The network is overloaded and the supplies had been switched off alternately in various parts of the city earlier.

However, the problems are being solved. A new thermal power plant with the output of 43 megawatt is to be completed this year. A fourth transformation station is being built with the GDR assistance, the distribution network and the three power stations will be modernized. Many problems (?already) will be removed next winter.

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

SOVIETS BOMB VILLAGE--Islamabad, 4 Jan (SPA)--Nadershah Kot, a village in Afghanistan's eastern Pakista Province, close to the Pakistani border, was completely wiped out by savage Soviet bombing, the Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) agency reported from Peshawar today. The agency said the Soviet bombing of the village was in retaliation for an uprising by a group of Afghan soldiers on December 31 against their communist officers. Thirty communists were reported killed in the mutiny and an Afghan ammunition dump was blown up. Twelve of the mutineers reached Miran Shah, nearly 250 km south-west of Peshawar in Pakistan, while 100 were reported to have joined the Afghan Mujahideen in adjoining areas. [Text] [LD042202 Riyadh SPA in English 2005 GMT 4 Jan 83]

USSR EMBASSY DAMAGED--Islamabad, 30 Dec (AFP)--Part of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul was damaged in a rocket attack on the building on December 24 by a commando of Mujahideen guerrillas, according to a traveler who has arrived in Peshawar, Pakistan. Reports said today the traveler asked to remain anonymous because, he said, he intended returning to Afghanistan. His report, which said there had been no victims in the attack, has so far not been corroborated by any Western diplomatic sources. [Excerpt] [BK301736 Hong Kong AFP in English 1730 GMT 30 Dec 82]

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM--Kabul (CETeka correspondent)--Local authorities work in the centres of most Afghan districts and provinces, Abdal Kayuma [spelling of name as received], director of the office for the management of local bodies of state power--an institution directing the work of governors in provinces and administrative bodies under their jurisdiction, has told CETeka here. A draft law on local bodies of state power is currently being debated by the Afghan public. It has met with a broad interest in the provinces and the majority of the population express their approval of the legislation. So far governors in the provinces and heads of districts and regions have been appointed, but under the new law they should be elected. Village, regional, district, provincial and municipal jirgas (councils) are to be formed. The elected members of the respective jirga will elect an executive committee to be headed by a chairman. All citizens over 18 years of age will have the right to vote. The local bodies will work in close cooperation with all patriotic forces, social and political organizations associated in the national fatherland front. The adoption of the legislation and its practical implementation will be an important step toward achieving the aims of the national democratic revolution and will further enhance the people's involvement in the management of public affairs. [Text] [LD282334 Prague CTK in English 1710 GMT 28 Dec 82]

REPORT ON PREPARATIONS FOR NONALIGNED SUMMIT

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Nov 82 p 9

[Text] The seventh non-aligned summit in Delhi next March will witness the largest gathering of heads of state and government to discuss several contentious issues that have defied solutions.

For India, which will be the chairman of the non-aligned movement for the next three years, the shifting of the venue of the seventh summit from Baghdad to Delhi has presented a stupendous task.

The venue was shifted just before the summit was to take place in Baghdad in September as originally scheduled in view of the Iran-Iraq war leaving Delhi hardly six months' time against the normal period of three years to make preparation for the summit.

The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, will be sending invitations to the participants shortly. The non-aligned movement has 98 member nations, 20 observers and 18 guests, including organisations.

Venezuela and Colombia have also applied for membership of the movement. The secretary-general of the United Nations and representatives of several international organisations are also expected to attend.

General Debate

The summit, which will last from March 7 to 12, will be preceded by meetings of senior officials and foreign ministers from March 1. The general debate will be spread over the first four days of the summit.

The government is making arrangements for the accommodation and transport of 2,500 delegates expected here for the summit. According to present indications, 75 countries will be represented by heads of government or state.

The government has already booked accommodation in some of the five-star hotels for the delegations. The top five members of delegations will be treated as guests of the government of India.

About 250 international interpreters will be hired to provide simultaneous translation in English, Spanish, French and Arabic.

Of the four committees, constituted for the conference, two will prepare the political and economic drafts before the end of this year. Senior officials of the external affairs ministry will visit capitals of various countries for consultations in the coming weeks.

The other two committees are dealing with publicity and logistics. The publicity committee has been entrusted with the task of preparing literature on India, non-alignment and India's role in it, and kits for the delegates and the press. All efforts are being made to provide the maximum possible facilities for the 1,250 foreign correspondents expected for the summit.

On the logistics side, not only are security problems being taken care of but steps are also being taken to ensure that Iranian and Iraqi delegates are not put up in the same hotel.

In view of the large number of delegates expected to arrive here on March 5 and 6, airport ceremonies are being curtailed to the minimum. The Delhi airport handles about 58 international flights daily and the pressure on parking space and other facilities is bound to increase with several VIP landings. Arrangements are also being made to accommodate 750 plane crews.

The question of Kampuchean representation in the movement is expected to be keenly debated. The Kampuchean seat has been kept vacant since the Havana summit.

Other major issues include Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, western Sahara and the Lebanon crisis. While there is unanimity on issues like Namibia, South Africa, disarmament and the Indian Ocean, India would have a crucial role to play in bringing about a consensus on contentious issues.

On the economic side, the North-South dialogue, problems of the developing nations and South-South co-operation will dominate the discussions.

CSO: 4600/1371

G. K. REDDY ON PLANS FOR NONALIGNED SUMMIT

Madras THE HINDU in English 22 Nov 82 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

The Western powers, which are generally sceptical of the role of non-alignment, are waiting to see whether India would be able to give a more "positive" orientation to the movement at the forthcoming summit in Delhi.

An attempt was made by the U.S. Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger, during the Indo-American official-level talks last week to elicit information that could offer some clues to India's own approach to this task, when the mantle of chairmanship falls on its shoulders for three years until the next summit conference.

A certain amount of thinking has already been done on the subject, but India has yet to evolve what is described as a conceptual framework for the political and economic declarations to make the non-aligned movement more cohesive and purposeful in the pursuit of its objectives.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr. M. K. Rameshwar, who is going to New York early next month to attend the closing stages of the U.N. General Assembly session, will avail himself of the opportunity to confer informally with the permanent representatives of the more important non-aligned countries on the subject.

Drafting of declarations: The actual drafting of the two declarations and other resolutions will begin in January after the other Secretaries in the External Affairs Ministry have visited a number of capitals for similar discussions. It is only after some sort of broad consensus has emerged that the host country could draw up the first drafts for circulation to elicit comments of the various countries before finalising them.

Meanwhile, the different committees that have been entrusted with the logistical work of the summit are busy working out the detailed requirements, ranging from import of bullet-

proof Mercedes cars for the visiting heads of Government, security arrangements for them, furnishing of their hotel suites and fool-proof catering services to refurbishing of Vigyan Bhawan, simultaneous translation facilities, handling of publicity material and cultural programmes for their entertainment.

Invitations have been sent out to 97 non-aligned heads of Government and 75 to 80 of them are expected to attend the conference. The official delegations of the member States will total at least 2,000 persons, including many Foreign Ministers, Ambassadors and others, besides a very large contingent of pressmen to cover the conference. About 20 observers and an equal number of guests representing different international organisations have been invited.

Accommodation: The five-star hotels built for the Asiad will be available for accommodating an estimated 3,500 persons attending the conference in different capacities, requiring logistical arrangements on the same scale as a U.N. General Assembly session. The officials concerned have been sent to Havana to see the arrangements made for the last summit and to Baghdad for the next one, before it was decided to shift the venue to Delhi.

One of the most expensive items will be the salaries and allowances of interpreters hired abroad to provide the simultaneous translation of speeches and conference documents. Each one will have to be paid on an average \$ 200 (Rs. 2,000) a day plus another \$ 100 (Rs. 1,000) for daily expenses.

Though no estimates of expenditure are possible at this stage, those entrusted with the arrangements are proceeding on the assumption that the total bill will be in the range of Rs. 25 crores to Rs. 30 crores, which is clearly on the lower side.

The conference will last altogether 10 to 12 days, starting on March 1 with a two-day meeting of the coordination bureau attended by officials, as a prelude to the Foreign Ministers meeting on March 3 and 4, before the heads of Government start arriving during the week-end of March 5 and 6, to begin the five-day summit on March 7, according to present plans.

The Government is thinking of setting up a special cell in the External Affairs Ministry after the summit to serve as a secretariat for coordinating the activities of the non-aligned community in different spheres during the inter-summit period when India functions as chairman of the movement.

CSO: 4600/1374

G. K. REDDY ON EXPECTATIONS FROM MITTERRAND VISIT

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Nov 82 p 2

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] An important head of State visiting India later this month is the President of France, Mr. Francois Mitterrand, one of the key figures in present-day Europe. He is a well-wisher of India, who has kept up the tradition of close friendship established by Charles de Gaulle and carried outward with equal zeal by his successors, Georges Pompidou and Valery Giscard d'Estaing, providing a high degree of cordiality and continuity in Indo-French relations.

After several unsuccessful runs, Mr. Mitterrand made the grade last year with a spectacular victory in one of the most bitterly fought French presidential elections. A happy feature of his presidency has been his sympathy and support for the Third World's aspirations in refreshing contrast with the indifference of other Western statesmen.

The French President arrives in Delhi on November 27 and spends three days in the capital going through the ceremonial aspects of his State visit followed by wide-ranging political talks with the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, on current international developments.

After a brief trip to Agra to see the Taj Mahal, he goes to Aurangabad to visit the Ajanta and Ellora caves and then to Bangalore for a day before flying back to Paris on November 30 at the conclusion of his four-day visit. The Government of India would have been happier if he were able to spend at least two more days to get glimpses of India's economic progress, but it is not customary for French Presidents to be away from their country for more than four days in the normal course.

Low Key Dialogue

The Prime Minister visited Paris in November last year in the after-glow of Mr. Mitterrand's electoral triumph which was widely hailed as a major event in the history of France. The two talked of the travails of the Third World in the wake of the Cancun Conference and issued a thundering joint declaration

calling for a new international economic order, besides making an eloquent plea for better understanding between rich and poor nations.

The two will be dealing now more or less with the same themes, both in the international and bilateral contexts, in what is admittedly a more troubled world with France's voice getting a little muted by its mounting domestic problems. The dialogue in Delhi is, therefore, going to be conducted in a relatively low key with no great public pronouncements, if Mrs. Gandhi can help it.

In dealing with a country like France with its great traditions, due attention has to be paid to the styles and temperaments of its leaders who set the tone for the conduct of its foreign relations. As one of the cradles of Western civilisation, France became the home of liberal though holding aloft the tenets of liberty, equality and fraternity after the 1789 revolution.

The mere abolition of monarchy did not clear the way for the emergence of a democratic State, since the First Republic was almost destroyed by the brief interlude of Napoleonic despotism, before the Second and Third Republics were established in 1848 and 1871 after long spells of instability that almost tore apart the new State.

The defeat in World War II followed by its liberation led to the creation of the Fourth Republic which was also plagued by recurring turmoils with frequent changes of government. The present Fifth Republic was established in 1958 after De Gaulle's return to power with a new tailor-made Constitution built around his powerful personality to restore the missing element of durability in French political life.

Differing Styles

If he was no peerless moral tactician like Mahatma Gandhi, De Gaulle was able to tower above his fellow politicians with his strong sense of propriety and rectitude, functioning as one of the Titanic figures of his times till he outlived his utility and stepped down gracefully before he was swept aside.

Pompidou, on the other hand, reconciled himself to the role of a stop-gap President keeping the Gaullist tradition alive during the interregnum, until another powerful personality emerged on the French scene.

As a product of the changing political styles, Mr. Giscard emerged as a prototype of the new European leader, combining modernity with tradition for providing a vibrant touch to Gaullism that was getting fossilised into catholicism.

An elegant and decent man, Mr. Giscard tried to transform public service into an exciting adventure, but failed deplorably in keeping pace with the changing moods and rising expectations of the younger generation. The stage was thus set for a more committed personality like Mr. Mitterrand with a better awareness of the aspirations of his people to make his way finally into the Elysee Palace.

But Mr. Mitterrand too seems to have grossly misjudged the mood of the volatile French electorate, miscalculated his capacity to cope with the complexity of mounting challenges confronting France and in the process failed to realise his own limitations in opting for greater pragmatism in the face of political compulsions to seek more dramatic alternatives for sustaining his austere socialism. He had to contend even before the completion of his first year in office with growing public disenchantment, as the critics started ganging up with the outcry that his ill-conceived policies were turning France into a "sick man of Europe".

It is no doubt an unfair accusation based on a great exaggeration of the difficulties France is facing at present but the run on the Franc followed by the leftist rhetoric of spending its way out of recession with increased expenditure but without an extended wage and price freeze to bring about reflation is not helping to restore confidence. What is worse, it is encouraging conservatives to start thinking seriously of a united rightist front on the eve of the forthcoming municipal elections to counter Mr. Mitterrand's sunshine socialism that has already lost much of the sheen in it.

The ramifications of these self-doubts on the domestic scene, with even the communist partners of the present coalition having some second thoughts about the validity of Mr. Mitterrand's policies and attitudes, are beginning to have an adverse impact on France's capacity to maintain its principled and often uncompromising postures in the conduct of its foreign relations.

More Cooperation

The Indian officials entrusted with the preparation of the briefs for the Mitterrand visit have to take all these factors into consideration in advising the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister how far they should go in seeking a closer identity of views with France. The intention is not to move away from France but preserve the necessary perspective in focussing attention on the scope for increased cooperation.

In the bilateral sphere, the relations have been quite good with France emerging as one of India's major suppliers of highly sophisticated equipment for defence, oil exploration, solar energy, telecommunications and industrial development, besides providing assistance for agro-forestry, animal breeding, water conservation, storage of foodgrains, preservation of fruit and vegetables and trade promotion. The total contracts secured by France amount to roughly Rs. 3,000 crores, including the Mirage-2000 deal, the alumina complex and the telecom transaction.

There is thus very little scope for signing any new protocols during the Mitterrand visit since the existing agreements already cover all aspects of Indo-French economic cooperation. The best that can be done is to reaffirm the mutual determination to intensify this relationship as and when fresh opportunities occur for extending it.

Similarly, there has been no significant changes in the international scene since the last Indira-Mitterrand meeting in November last year to justify a

new political declaration other than the customary joint communique. The Indian side however is keeping an open mind and it would have no objection as such to the issue of yet another joint declaration, which will be the third in three years if France is keen on it.

The difficulties that France is facing on the domestic front have also had a sobering effect on some of the starry-eyed men in the Congress (I) who have been privately canvassing for a switch-over to a French style of presidential system. It is beginning to dawn on them that the present French Constitution, tailored specially to suit the personality and style of De Gaulle at a time when France was going through the traumatic aftermath of deep internal dissensions, has already out-lived its utility and is liable to be changed to meet the exigencies of the changing situation.

The provision made to elect for seven years an executive President who is not responsible to Parliament and empower him to appoint a Prime Minister who in his view is capable of commanding the confidence of Parliament elected every five years was based on the assumption that the party to which the President belonged would also have the requisite majority in Parliament to give legitimacy to his Government.

It is highly unlikely that the recent history of a President elected with a landslide majority dissolving Parliament to get his party elected with a comfortable margin to back his policies and support his action is going to be repeated in the foreseeable future.

It would therefore be highly unwise for India to adopt a constitutional pattern that is becoming increasingly redundant in France itself in the changing context with the distinct possibility of an opposition party or coalition sweeping the polls in the next parliamentary elections two years before Mr. Mitterrand completes his seven-year term.

Embarrassing Discord

Indo-French relations were recently soured a bit by the differences that surfaced over the nuclear question. An attempt was made to get over the problem by devising a formula, or at least agreeing on a set of words, that would meet the requirements of both sides without bringing into the open the embarrassing discord over the applicability of the pursuit and perpetuity clauses to the proposed French supply of nuclear fuel for Tarapur during the remaining 10 years of the Indo-U.S. agreement.

After protracted discussions, the French no doubt climbed down and came forward with a brief draft of roughly half a page for a simple exchange of letters on the alternative fuel supply arrangement imposing no obligation on India's part to enter into a new safeguards agreement with the IAEA applying the additional provisions. The intention was to get this awkward issue out of the way before the Mitterrand visit.

The Indian side, adhering firmly to its stand that all safeguards must end in 1993 with the completion of the 1963 agreement, made some verbal changes in

the revised French draft to make this position clear at least by implication, while the French wanted to leave this aspect somewhat vague under the apparent impression that it would be open to differing interpretations without prejudice to the French commitment as a member of the London Club to insist on more stringent safeguards in any new nuclear supply contract signed by it. The wording with the result that there has been further delay in reaching an agreement.

The Indian side naturally is perplexed by this procrastination by France, but it does not want to say anything which might become controversial on the eve of the Mitterrand visit. The latest approach is not to take up the subject with Mr. Mitterrand himself if it cannot be settled at lower levels before his arrival in Delhi.

The Prime Minister wants to concentrate on a broader horizon and elevate the level of the dialogue to a higher plane to confine the discussions to more important international issues to have the benefit of Mr. Mitterrand's assessment of the post-Brezhnev era in Europe, the future of East-West detente and the prospects for North-South global negotiations.

One of the basic postulates of Indian foreign policy is to strive not merely for equally good relations with both the Soviet Union and the U.S. but also work for better understanding with the countries of Western Europe like Britain, France and West Germany to acquire greater maneuverability in establishing rapport with Moscow as well as Washington.

The friendship with France has acquired additional importance in achieving the twin objectives of establishing closer links with the two superpowers and also intensifying its contacts with Western Europe. And the Mitterrand visit is thus seen as an essential milestone in the diversification of the country's foreign relations without expectations of any great miracles from it.

CSO: 4600/1370

NEW CONGRESS-I MINISTRY INSTALLED IN NAGALAND

Calcutta THE STATEMAN in English 18 Nov 82 pp 1, 9

[Text] A seven-member Congress (I) Ministry in Nagaland, headed by Mr Mr S. C. Jamir, was sworn in here today, reports PTI.

The Governor, Mr S. M. H. Burney, administered the oath of office and secrecy to the incumbents at a simple ceremony.

The new Ministry took office following the Governor's dismissal last night of the Naga National Democratic Party Ministry, led by Mr J. B. Jasokie, who had expressed his inability to "parade" his supporters by the deadline served on him. Instead, the former Chief Minister preferred a "trial of strength" on the floor of the Assembly by November 25.

This is the second Congress (I) Ministry in this State. The earlier one also formed, by Mr Jamir in April 1980, lasted 48 days.

Besides Mr Jamir, those sworn in today were Mr T. A. Ngullie, Mr H. Sao Chang, Mr K. L. Chisi, Mr Kariba, Mr Khehoto and Mr P. Enyie Konyak.

Meanwhile, Mr Jasokie said in a statement: "There are no circumstances warranting dismissal of my Ministry". This was done in "haste" solely to "install the Congress (I) Ministry whose claim of a majority is doubtful", he said.

Mr Jamir, after being elected leader of the Congress (I) Legislature Party, had, however, substantiated his claim of majority, taking with him eight Independents who had joined the Congress (I) and had been accepted by the party when he called on the Governor earlier.

Later addressing a Press conference after his first Cabinet meeting here this evening, Mr Jamir promised to the people of the State a "clean and efficient administration" and assured them protection for their life and property.

"The primary task of this Government will be to launch time-barred economic programmes to achieve tangible results for the common man, with particular emphasis on the rural population", he said.

Mr Jamir said the economic policy of his Government would be based on the new 20-point programme of the Prime Minister.

Mr Jamir said that during the past two-and-a-half years of NNDP rule in Nagaland, the economic condition in the State had been "in the doldrums". He said resources provided to the State by the Centre had not been properly utilized. His Government would endeavour to restore the economy of the State and give it a new lease of life.

His Government would do its best "to consolidate the forces of peace so that normalcy in the true sense of the term is achieved", he added.

Mr Jamir referred to the Assam-Nagaland boundary dispute and said that his Government would try to sort out the problem through bilateral discussion or through the good offices of the Centre.

There would be a three-tier Ministry, the size and composition of which was being processed. He would shortly announce the distribution of portfolios.

Mr Jamir also said that the administrative apparatus would be reoriented and would be allowed to function with the "least interference from politicians, including my party men".

Mr Jamir said this was the first time that the Congress (I) had contested all the 60 seats in Nagaland.

Nagaland, being part and parcel of the Indian Union, the people the State "should feel that they belong to the great family and have a part to play in the development of the State and the country", he added.

The ruling Congress (I) has claimed a strength of 33 in the newly-elected 60-member Nagaland Assembly.

The Chief Minister said at the Press conference that Mr C. S. Rengma, vice-president of the NNDP, had joined the Congress (I) this morning. He has been admitted to the party, he added.

"Several other NNDP MLAs have approached us to take them into the party fold. The matter is being looked into by the organization", he said.

The Election Commission today notified in the official gazette the names of the members elected from all the 60 constituencies to duly constitute the new Legislative Assembly.

According to an official intimation received by the Election Commission, the existing Nagaland Legislative Assembly had been dissolved by the Governor yesterday.

CSO: 4600/1375

'INSIGHT' TEAM INVESTIGATES SANJAY MANCH

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 17, 18 Nov 82

[17 Nov 82 p 9]

[Text] Whether or not Mrs Maneka Gandhi will emerge as a political force to reckon with remains a matter of speculation. Meanwhile, Insight has investigated the sources of the Sanjay Vichar Manch's, apparent affluence. Neither the known financial resources of the three leading members of this group, Mrs Maneka Gandhi, Mr Akbar Ahmad and Mr J. N. Mishra, nor the known contributions from workers and supporters seem to explain the level of spending by the Manch. In this two-part series, Insight a special team of STATESMAN reporters, deals first with the financial resources of the Manch and then with the organizational set-up.

For an organization that was conceived less than eight months ago, the Sanjay Vichar Manch, unlike many political parties, exudes affluence.

This has been obvious from the start. About Rs 2 lakhs was spent on the first convention of the Manch held on March 28 in Lucknow. Included in the expenses were the cost of lunch for 300 people (brought from Mr Akbar Ahmed's farm in Kicha, U.P.), posters (between Rs 15,000 and Rs 20,000), of four hired taxis from Delhi (about Rs 6,000), stay for about eight people in Carlton Hotel, Lucknow, air tickets for an equal number of people to and from Delhi and petrol and hire charges of about 40 cars in Mrs Maneka Gandhi's motorcade.

Since March 28, the Sanjay Gandhi Manch has organized over a dozen public meetings on a similar scale and over 30 smaller meetings. Even the smaller meetings have involved large expenditure on posters, cars, stages and rostrums.

The Manch has set up offices in a number of State capitals and in many small towns, particularly in North India. The expenses of some of these offices are met locally but the rest are being financed from New Delhi.

Conservative Estimate

For the Manch meetings held in places as far apart as Hyderabad, Patna, Baroda, Ahmedabad, Nagpur, Chandigarh, Jind, Srinagar and towns in eastern U.P., Mrs Maneka Gandhi, Mr Akbar Ahmed, Mr J. N. Mishra and, at times, two or three other workers, have travelled by air. On air travel alone, the Manch seems to have, at a conservative estimate, spent over Rs 100,000.

Where does the money come from? To Insight's inquiries, the stock answer has been that Mrs Maneka Gandhi, with access to her husband's funds, has no reason to worry about funds. However, Insight's finding is that none of Sanjay Gandhi's known assets is being used to finance Manch activities.

What is Sanjay Gandhi worth on paper anyway? In a statement to the Estate Duty Office, Mrs Maneka Gandhi as the sole claimant to Sanjay Gandhi's property, has declared that she is heir to property worth Rs 17 lakhs, give or take a couple of thousands. But it was only a few weeks ago that the office of the Commissioner of Estate Duty gave Mrs Maneka Gandhi provisional clearance to operate the movable assets of Sanjay Gandhi, provided the assessed duty--about Rs 5.25 lakhs--was paid. This amount was paid a few days ago.

Sanjay's Assets

The Manch, has been in existence for some months and clearly, Sanjay Gandhi's assets were not being used to finance its activities. Even now, Mrs Maneka Gandhi can handle only Sanjay Gandhi's movable assets. His account (number 1925) in the Oriental Bank of Commerce, Mahipalpur (a village in outer Delhi on Gurgaon Road), had a balance of about Rs 75,000 at the time of his death. He had an account in the State Bank of India, Parliament Street (account number 30677/213), and shares in about a dozen companies, including Britannia Biscuits, Tata Robins Press and Mahamaya Finance. These are the assets Mrs Maneka Gandhi can draw upon if she wants to.

Sanjay Gandhi's shops in Vasant Vihar (shop numbers 19 and 20-A) and other immoveable assets cannot be sold until the Commissioner of Estate Duty grants the final clearance and the estate is probated. But before this is done, the Commissioner will have to examine if the heir has given the correct value of the various assets. The value of Sanjay Gandhi's assets is such that even an under-valuation of Rs 3,00,000 to Rs 4,00,000 can make a vast difference in the amount of duty to be paid. On assets worth over Rs 15 lakhs, the duty payable is Rs 4,22,000 plus half of the amount over Rs 15 lakhs. Where the assets are worth more than Rs 20 lakhs, the amount of duty is Rs 6,72,000 plus 85% of the sum above Rs 20 lakhs.

The final clearance will perhaps not come, as is usual in such cases, for many years. Hence Mrs Maneka Gandhi can have access to only a part of what her husband left in the books.

Monthly Salary

In her own right, Mrs Maneka Gandhi is the Managing Director of Rajdhani General Trading Company Private Limited--which was earlier called Maruti

Technical Services--and draws a monthly salary of Rs 4,000. The company has a paid-up capital of Rs 2.15 lakhs and most of the shares of this company are held by Mrs Maneka Gandhi. Some were earlier in Sanjay's name but, after the grant of provisional clearance, are now under her control.

Rajdhani Trading showed a loss from 1977 to 1980. Although the balance has not yet been finalized, it is learnt that the company has made a profit of about Rs 2 lakhs. But it owes about Rs 8 lakhs to the Oriental Bank of Commerce for loans taken to finance the purchase of 23 trucks. Mrs Maneka Gandhi has a house in Maharani Bagh. Early this year, Mrs Maneka Gandhi asked for the ownership of the house to be transferred to her name. The matter is pending with the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

Let us now turn to Mr Akbar Ahmed. The only known source of his income is the allowance he receives from the proceeds of his family's 400-acre farm in Kicha, Nainital district, U.P. He draws a monthly allowance of Rs 3,000 from his house.

The third leading member of the group is Mr J. N. Mishra, a former IAS officer. His father runs a factory in Allahabad; one of his brothers is an Inspector in the U.P. Police and another works for a private sector firm.

Financial Status

Any account of the financial status of these persons must necessarily deal with their personal expenses. Mrs Maneka Gandhi pays a rent of Rs 6,000 for the house she has taken in Golf Links, an affluent colony in New Delhi. She had, through a draft dated April 14, 1982, paid Rs 72,000 to the landlord, as one year's rent in advance. The house rent itself is more than the salary she draws as Managing Director of Rajdhani Trading.

Mr Ahmed has the reputation among friends of being a free spender. When in Delhi, his high level of personal expenditure is conspicuous from his life-style. Even his household expenses in Delhi would need most of the allowance that he gets from the family farm. If these leaders are demonstrably not in a position to finance the Manch activities where has the money come from all these months?

Inquiries made in U.P. showed that district-level convenors of the Manch have been selected largely on the basis of their financial status. The fact that some of them were involved in criminal cases does not seem to have been a disqualification. These persons have been asked to bear all the expenses of their units and, in addition, to make contributions to the Manch headquarters.

Second Group

These persons have been asked to bear all the expenses of their units and in addition, to make contributions to the Manch headquarters.

The second group of contributors to the Manch is made up of an affluent lobby of the Terai region in Nainital, Kheer Lakhimpur, Pilibhit, Ranikhet and Kicha.

Like Mr Akbar Ahmed's family, all of them are land owners in the Terai.

There are also businessmen who have given much money to the Manch. Mr Chelubhai Rambhai Madaum of Rajkot for one. On October 1, he arrived in Patna and checked into Hotel Chanakya there. The same day, Mrs Maneka Gandhi also moved into the hotel. Mr Madaum brought with him a film crew travelled in a Matador van and two Ambassador cars. The Manch's meetings in Bihar were filmed and the films, according to a member of Parliament from the Jamnagar region, have been shown to several leading industrialists of Surat and Ahmedabad to convince them of the Manch's popularity and get donations.

A close aide of the Gujarat Finance Minister was photographed receiving Mrs Maneka Gandhi when she went there to address a meeting of the Manch at Ahmedabad. The aide has helped Mr Madaum in meeting many industrialists.

In the early and mid-1960's Mr Madaum was in the Gujarat police records. He was also charged with assaulting an IPC officer.

Besides meeting some of the expenses which were incurred by Mrs Maneka Gandhi in Patna, Mr Madaum also presented a bag to her at a public meeting in Baroda. The bag, Manch insiders say, contained a large amount of money.

However, it is clear that Mr Madaum, the district-level conveners and the Terai lobby cannot account for the lavish scale on which the Manch has been spending money. No concrete evidence is available about where the rest of the funds come from but certain events seem worth noting.

On a Thursday in February this year, Mrs Maneka Gandhi flew to London. The following Thursday, she was followed by Ms Vasundhara Scindia, daughter of Mrs Vijay Raje Scindia. A week later, Mrs Maneka Gandhi returned after a meeting with a London-based industrialist. Another seven days passed before Ms Vasundhara returned, carrying four bags. Her return was followed by a celebration.

Haji Mastan's Role

Mr Ahmed visited Bombay at least thrice. On one visit, he attended the marriage of Haji Mastan's daughter. Later, he told the Northern India Patrika in Lucknow that Mr Mastan had financed the Congress (I) in the General Election. Mr Mastan also visited Lucknow early this year and stayed at Hotel Clarkes Avadh. During his stay, he met Mr Akbar Ahmed and members of his family.

A week before the March 28 convention in Lucknow, Mr Ahmed prepared a list of 55 industrialists and business houses in Bombay, Delhi and U.P. The Intelligence Bureau also has a similar list.

In addition, the IB has information that support has been routed through two foreign embassies. A former Manch leader in Lucknow, Mr Dharmendra Shankhadar, has in a letter to Mr Rajiv Gandhi alleged that the Manch leaders have entered into a "nefarious deal" with some foreign Government agency.

[18 Nov 82 p 9]

[Text] Mrs Maneka Gandhi's emergence as a political leader must be seen in the light of her past. Before she married Sanjay Gandhi she worked as a model. When Mrs Indira Gandhi referred to her daughter-in-law's different background while the latter was about to leave No. 1 Safdarjang Road.

After her marriage to Sanjay Gandhi her whole life revolved round her husband. She tried her best to adjust to her new surroundings and took up the editing of Surya. But before she could sharpen her pencil Mrs Indira Gandhi was out of power. Days of harassment followed during the Janata regime.

Things changed again with Mrs Gandhi's return to power. Then Sanjay Gandhi died. His widow's inability to find an equation with either Mr Rajiv Gandhi and his wife made matters worse, until she decided to leave No. 1 Safdarjang Road.

Since then crowds have thronged at her meetings in Lucknow, Patna, Jind and of late in Eastern U.P. In Muzzafarpur, North Bihar, the crowd was so large as to invite a comparison with the meeting in that town addressed by Mr Jayaprakash Narayan some years ago.

Ego Swelled

As crowds have swelled so apparently has Mrs Maneka Gandhi's ego. Her supporters who have now deserted her describe her as pompous and arrogant. The image of the new Maneka closely resembles that of her mother-in-law--cool, calculating, ruthless. And not unlikely the Congress (I) there are reports of leadership squabbles within the Sanjay Vichar Manch apart from a brewing feud between two of its pillars--Mr Akbar Ahmed and Mr J. N. Mishra.

Eight months since its inception, there is little to show that the Manch is serious about following what are believed to be the ideals of Sanjay Gandhi, its originally stated aim. What essentially seems to have launched the Manch is a personal rift between the Prime Minister and her daughter-in-law.

In the weeks before Sanjay Gandhi died, the rift between him and his brother, Rajiv, seemed to have been simmering. After his death, many of the former's close friends were pushed to the sidelines.

Close Friends

Sources with access to the Prime Minister's house say that Mrs Gandhi had only two close friends after her husband's death: Ms Vasundhara Scindia and Mr Akbar Ahmed. What seems to have upset Mrs Indira Gandhi more than anything else was Maneka's association with Akbar Ahmed (also known as Dumpy) and Vasundhara. The Prime Minister reportedly instructed her daughter-in-law not to see them. The sale of Surya further complicated matters.

Mrs Maneka Gandhi's decision to leave No. 1 Safdarjang Road was a calculated move. It was taken as early as February, although the climax was reached

when there was a wordy confrontation with her mother-in-law. Plans for the Manch had been drawn up before the confrontation took place. Throughout the exercise, Mrs Maneka Gandhi's mother, Mrs Amteshwar Anand, Ms Vasundhara Scindia and Mr Akbar Ahmed were the principal planners in an operation which Mrs Maneka Gandhi executed competently.

Special Role

Mr Ahmed played a special role. Sanjay Gandhi and his wife used to visit a Maharani Bagh house where Mr Ahmed stayed, though the house actually belonged to Sanjay. An insider in the house told us that millowners, Members of Parliament, Chief Ministers and others frequently visited Mr Ahmed to seek an appointment with Sanjay Gandhi, and the former was thus in a position to know the industrialists who enjoyed Sanjay Gandhi's confidence.

A number of documents were removed from Sanjay Gandhi's room in the Prime Minister's house even before Mrs Maneka Gandhi finally left. Knowledgeable sources say that an intelligence agency was pressed into service but by the time it got into the act "almirahs had been emptied" and "suitcases were being loaded". Within a day of Sanjay Gandhi's death, the offices of Rajdhani Trading were sealed on orders from the Prime Minister's house.

Mr Ahmed is alleged to have laid his hands on information relating to the bank accounts of the Congress Party as well as details about the party's collections before the 1980 General Election. It is further alleged that before the elections, Sanjay Gandhi compelled between 160 and 180 Congressmen who had been given tickets by him to sign blank promisory notes, presumably to have a check on the M.P.s who might defect, Insight saw the printing press in Connaught Place, New Delhi, where the promisory notes were printed.

Documents Missing

Final confirmation that the Manch was in possession of the documents came when a Congress (I) M.P. was contacted by the Manch leaders and told about it. He then complained to the Prime Minister. The Intelligence Bureau was asked to investigate this matter but the documents were never found.

As part of the plan to embarrass Mr Rajiv Gandhi, personal campaign against Mrs Sonia Gandhi was planned by the Manch some months ago. With vast crowds attending her meetings, Mrs Maneka Gandhi seems to think that she can aspire to the top. This inflated sense of her own importance perhaps explains her behaviour towards her supporters. During her visit to Patna in the first week of October, she commented that the Bihar Unit Manch chief, Mr Lalit Mohan Singh, was "trying to become too big for his boots". Within a month he was removed. She is known to pull up even Mr J. N. Mishra and Mr Ahmed in public. To complicate matters, Mr Mishra and Mr Ahmed are not getting on well.

Mr Mishra, a former IAS officer, is shrewd and understands politics. He has had some association with seasoned politicians including Mrs Gandhi and Mr Kamalapati Tripathi. After the 1980 elections, he left Mrs Gandhi following differences with Mr R. K. Dhawan. Mr Ahmed, on the other hand, was exposed only to the Sanjay brand of politics. He is emotional and described as "extremely loyal" to Mrs Maneka Gandhi.

All Is Not Well

Mr Mishra handles Mrs Maneka Gandhi's speeches and interaction with politicians while Mr Ahmed looks mainly after the funds and the organization. But their paths cross. The Manch has lately been sending "observers" to assess how effectively a meeting is organized by a local convener. On several occasions, such observers have been sent by both. An indication that all is not well between the two is given in a letter written by a former Manch leader in Lucknow, Mr Dharmendra Shankhder, to Mr Rajiv Gandhi. In the letter dated September 13, Mr Shankhader accuses Mr Ahmed's followers of attacking Mr Mishra at Sultanpur.

Mr Ahmed's friendship extends to Dr Farooq Abdullah, with whom he spent many days at the latter's house in Tilak Marg, New Delhi. Among his other friends are Mrs Rukhsana Sultana, Mr Haji Mastan, Mr Sanjay Khan and Mr A. R. Antulay, Mr Ahmed's detractors suggest that efforts are being made to get the support of powerful West Asians like Abdul Daheb Galadhari.

However, sources point out, rumours about the rift between Mr Mishra and Mr Ahmed could also be part of a systematic campaign by the Government to weaken the Manch. The fact that the I.B. is taking more than an active interest in the Manch affairs is obvious. In fact, these sources say the I.B. and the local CID in U.P. had planted agents at almost every level in the Manch. The Research and Analysis Wing's name figures in a bid to procure some photographs of Manch leaders that could embarrass them.

Special Audience

Intelligence agencies have been trying to infiltrate the Manch and break it from within, and also to woo the leaders. The defection of the Delhi Manch leaders was done with the help of Mr H. K. L. Bhagat, the State Minister of Works and Housing. The day on which they defected they were given a special audience with Mr Rajiv Gandhi and on the next day with Mrs Gandhi.

Mr Surendra Reddy and Mr R. Damodar, two Andhra Pradesh Manch leaders who resigned a day before Mrs Maneka Gandhi left for Hyderabad, stayed in Janpath Hotel in New Delhi. Their bills were paid in front of the Insight team by a Youth Congress leader closely identified with Mr Ghani Khan Chowdhury, the Union Minister. There are similar efforts to lure Manch leaders in Punjab and U.P.

At the same time, the Manch is pleased with the defection of small and middle level Congress (I) leaders in U. P. and Karnataka who have joined Mrs Maneka Gandhi on the plea that her mother-in-law has failed to check corruption. There are also reports of Opposition parties supporting the Manch.

A day before the Lucknow convention, Mr Ahmed went to see Mr H. N. Bahuguna at a hotel. Mr T. S. Bedi another former Manch leader, claims to have been instructed to meet the local BJP unit chief at Jullundur where Mrs Maneka Gandhi was to address a meeting. Mr Bedi claims that the BJP leader had instructions to extend all possible support to the Manch.

Some Support

The Manch is getting some support at the district level, particularly in Rai Bareilly and Amethi. Congressmen are also known to have sent their relatives to join the Manch. Besides, the Thakurs who were encouraged by Mr Sanjay Gandhi are planning to join the Manch as it can effectively work to contain the Brahmin lobby in U.P.

Nevertheless, the organization seems to be cracking. Her rudeness apart, Mrs Maneka Gandhi is not able to enthuse her supporters in the way her husband could. Only a few staunchly committed ones are left with her: such as Mr Ahmed, Captain Harry (the Indian Airlines pilot who allowed Sanjay Gandhi to handle his aircraft in the controversial Hyderabad flight and Mr Chhatar Singh, her personal escort. The last, however, is said to object to the role of Ms Vasundhara Scindia and Mrs Anand in the activities of the Manch.

What is the future of the Manch? One source suggests the possibility of a patch-up between Mrs Gandhi and her daughter-in-law, if Mr Ahmed is dropped. Others, however, maintain that relations have been too badly strained for a reconciliation.

CSO: 4600/1375

DELHI 'DISMAYED' OVER MISREPRESENTATION IN CARTER BOOK

Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text] The former U.S. President, Mr. Jimmy Carter, is reported to have made two highly critical references to India in his book "Keeping Faith: Memoirs of a President" the copies of which have not yet reached Delhi, although the offending passages have been telexed from Washington for the information of the Government.

The first one relates to Afghanistan, how Mr. Carter made a personal appeal to Mrs. Gandhi to oppose the Soviet intervention as soon as she was voted back to power in early January 1980, but she ended up by supporting the Soviet action.

The reference was to the stand that the Indian representative took during the U.N. General Assembly debate on Soviet intervention, under instructions from the new Government even before it had formally assumed office. He took note of the Soviet justification, in abstaining on the resolution calling for an immediate pull-out of Soviet troops, that in India's view a condemnation of Soviet action alone would not serve any useful purpose, when the main emphasis should be on withdrawal of all foreign forces.

The other reference to India in Mr. Carter's book is an astounding accusation that it was a highly mischievous broadcast by what he described as the State-controlled All-India Radio that infuriated the rampaging Pakistani mob to set fire to the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad in December 1979, in the wake of the occupation of the Grand Mosque in Mecca by some religious fanatics allegedly at the behest of the pro-Moscow regime in neighbouring South Yemen.

Records belie charge: The former President insinuated that it was the credence given by AIR to false reports implicating the U.S. in this act of sacrilege that produced the chain reaction of frenzy leading to the attack on the American Embassy in Pakistan. But the records of AIR news broadcasts of those days do not contain any direct or indirect reference to U.S. complicity in the seizure of the Grand Mosque in Mecca, which followed the Iranian attack on the American Embassy and capture of hostages in Teheran.

The Government of India is naturally dismayed how the former President of the U.S. could have allowed himself to be misled by such a patently false report, when he should have known what exactly happened and how the Pakistani authorities did nothing while the screaming mob was ransacking the Embassy and stepped in only after the whole building was ablaze.

False allegations: The Government is waiting for a copy of the book to make a thorough scrutiny of all that Mr. Carter has said about India before rebutting his charges. There were gross distortions in the books or articles written by Mr. Nixon and Dr. Kissinger in giving their version of the infamous tilt against India during the Bangladesh conflict, but they did not get to the extent of making utterly false allegations in misrepresenting the Indian position.

It is considered highly unfortunate that a man of Mr. Carter's rectitude, who became President with the promise that he would never lie as Mr. Nixon did and would usher in a new era of "honest, compassionate and responsive Government", should have allowed himself to be so grossly misinformed.

CSO: 4600/1370

KASHMIR CHIEF MINISTER TO BAN COMMUNAL ORGANIZATIONS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Nov 82 p 9

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Dr. Farooq Abdullah, today said that he would ban "communal" organisations like the R.S.S. and "secessionist" bodies like the Muslim League in the valley and the Liberation Front.

"The organisations which spread communalism and talk of secession have no place in my state," he declared at a "Meet the press" programme here organised by the Delhi Journalists' Association.

However, he said, that he had no intention of banning the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) as its leaders said their party was not communal but secular.

Dr. Abdullah said communal harmony has been very good in the state but now the RSS is creating problems. "I will not allow this."

The Muslim League in the valley, which was different from the one in other parts of the country, and the Liberation Front were questioning the accession of the state, he said. Such organisations could not be allowed to function, he added.

Dr. Abdullah urged the other states to follow suit in banning the RSS.

Dr. Abdullah ruled out talks with other states, the Centre and the RSS leaders before imposing a ban on the organisation in his state.

"It has gone too far and the time has now come for me to see that my people, Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and others are safe. I cannot go on waiting for others to act," the chief minister said.

The ban on the RSS, he said, was "to save India because the RSS was injecting communalism in the minds of young children who are citizens of tomorrow".

Referring to his mediation efforts between the Akalis and the Centre, Dr. Abdullah said he did this on his own initiative.

"So long as one continues to discuss and not accept defeat one can find a solution. It is good that both the Centre and the Akalis are talking."

The chief minister said he believed that major issues had been resolved and that only two--the fate of Chandigarh, Fazilka and Abohar and sharing of river waters--remained.

In the context of sharing of river waters, he referred to the stand of the chief ministers of states like Rajasthan and Harvana and said a final solution would have to emerge with their acceptance.

Press Freedom

A number of steps had been taken to industrialise the state. He proposed to meet industrialists in Bombay, Ahmedabad, Bangalore and other centres and ask them to utilise the incentives being offered to set up units in his state.

The chief minister said he would not impose any curbs on the freedom of the press but said the media itself should exercise restraint whenever it was needed.

There should not be any communication gap between the government leaders and the press, he added.

He felt happy to note that the Indian press was free, frank and fair. However at times it did not exercise restraint in reporting sensitive subjects.

CSO: 4600/1371

PLANNING COMMISSION CONCERNED OVER TRADE DEFICIT

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 22 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Experts in the Planning Commission are worried over the divergence in the country's foreign trade in the first two years of the Sixth Plan.

What has disconcerted them is the emergence of a wide gap between the actual deficit in the balance of trade and the one envisaged by the Planning Commission when it formulated the Sixth Plan.

The Sixth Plan document placed the deficit in the balance of trade in the entire five-year period at Rs 17,773 crores (at the 1979-83 prices). The Plan document projected exports at Rs 41,078 crores and imports at Rs 58,851 crores for the five-year period.

The deficit in the first two years of the Sixth Plan has turned out to be Rs 11,592 crores. The outlook for foreign trade in the current fiscal year does not seem promising. Going by the trend in the first quarter of the current year, it is feared that the deficit in the whole of the 1982-83 fiscal year and that of the first two years taken together would itself cross Rs 17,773 crores, the figure so envisaged for the entire five-year period of the Sixth Plan.

The Plan document says: "Despite a substantial growth in exports and net inflows of external aid of Rs 5,889 crores, there will still be a gap in the balance of payments." This is proposed to be met partly from our own foreign exchange reserves and partly from additional capital inflows from abroad, including commercial sources.

The Planning Commission experts apprehend that the Plan document's assumptions in regarding the country's foreign exchange resources are also likely to go away. It is pointed out that the foreign exchange assets of the Reserve Bank of India were down at Rs 3,274 crores on June 30, showing a decline of Rs 1,267 crores in the receding 12 months.

The experts state that if the installment of Rs 949 crores of the IMF loan during this period is not taken into account, the fall in foreign exchange assets will be Rs 2,001 crores, over and above a decline of Rs 1,267 crores in the preceding year (not taking into account the drawings from the IMF of Rs 819 crores).

These experts fear, that the drawing from the country's foreign exchange reserves in the first two-and-a-half years will far exceed Rs 1,000 crores, provided for by the Planning Commission for the Sixth Plan.

LIBERAL IMPORTS SAID TO HURT PUBLIC SECTOR UNITS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Nov 82 p 2

[Text] The liberalised import policy being pursued in terms of the IMF loan agreement has now started hitting the public sector units. The worst affected are the units producing capital goods.

A note prepared by the Department of Heavy Industry on the subject says: "The tendency for liberalised import of capital goods is beginning to have adverse impact on the order book position of our undertakings".

The note, which was discussed at the recent meeting of the chief executives of public sector undertakings called by the department, has also blamed the delegation of powers to allow imports to other authorities. It says: "Decentralisation of decision-making process for permitting imports of capital goods by committees other than the Empowered Committee in the Department of Heavy Industry, also leads to greater pressure for imports.

The note further says that at a time when these units have shown their capacity to expand production and rise to the occasion, this reverse trend could lead to sluggish growth and resurgence of a regime of losses rather than profits.

It is pointed out that the order book position of heavy industry units in aggregate terms increased from Rs 2470 crores in March 1981 to Rs 4868 crores in September 1982. Although this order book position is equivalent to two years' output of the units and thus would seem to be satisfactory, in reality it is not so. In several product groups the position is far from being satisfactory, particularly in view of the long lead terms involved.

CSO: 4600/1377

RAILWAY PLANS FOR MODERNIZATION DESCRIBED

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Nov 82 p 6

[Text] The Indian railways seem certain to get their seventh dose of the World Bank loan--about \$400 million--towards financing a Rs. 1,094-crore modernisation and maintenance programme, to be completed in three years.

The objectives are: modernisation and improvement of diesel and electric locomotive maintenance and reliability; improvement of technology and performance of the AC mainline electric locomotives; and improvement of technology, design and operation of bulk movement.

The main emphasis is on what is known as the unit exchange system to reduce the down time of locomotives and a substantial replacement of existing locomotive and wagon types. Stress will also be given, through various training and operational methods, on fuel conservation and operation improvement.

The key role in this programme is to be assigned to a new facility being set up at Patiala for reclamation of diesel and electric locomotive components and assemblies. For electric locomotives the component pool will reach adequate levels for traction motors and some of the electrical components with the completion of another workshop at Nasik, near Bhusaval.

The World Bank has noted in its appraisal report that if by these measures the average down time of locomotives can be reduced by only two days per year and one day per year for rolling stock. It will ensure a four per cent annual overall improvement in utilisation of rolling stock and a one per cent improvement in motive power.

Modern Locomotive

Based on an investment period of three years, an assumed economic life of assets of ten years on average and the salvage value at the end of this period of 20 per cent, the project element will yield an economic return of not less than 23 per cent.

The need for improving and up-dating locomotive technology has been considered very urgent in the light of the future operating and service

requirements. It has, therefore, been agreed upon to introduce a "modern design, high-adhesion locomotive" capable of handling trains consisting of 4,500 tonnes (against the present maximum haulage capacity of 3,200 tonnes) on all electrified lines.

Since domestic development of such a locomotive may not keep pace with the accelerated pace of electrification, and this might delay the high benefits to be derived from introducing a modern and proven locomotive, the programme envisages the import of "up to 20 prototype AC electric locomotives of up to four different types" for testing in the Indian environment.

The introduction of high-capacity cast wagons also is envisaged. These wagons will allow for a speed of 100 km. per hour without increasing the braking distance, against the present available speed limit of wagons of 72 km. per hour. This will immediately create potential line capacity and service improvements for users.

The railways themselves have decided to order the manufacture of 21,000 of these cast wagons. But since domestic capacity for this type of manufacture is limited and indigenous availability of corrosion-resistant steel is nil at present, the World Bank will assist the import of some of these wagons and corrosion-resistant steel for manufacturing about 11,300 units by 1984-85.

The Bank has also obtained an assurance from the government of India and the railways that the progress in implementation and decisions taken thereon will continue to be communicated to the World Bank.

CSO: 4600/1371

BRIEFS

BRITISH AID--Britain will provide a grant of Rs 193.3 crores to India for the super thermal power project to be built at Rihand, in Uttar Pradesh, according to an agreement signed here today. The agreement was signed by Mr R. L. Wade-Gery, the United Kingdom's High Commissioner in India, and Mr M. Narasimham, Secretary, Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance. The first stage of the 3,000-MW power station at Rihand comprises two 500-MW units, planned to be set up by 1987. The power station will be built and maintained by the State-owned National Thermal Power Corporation at an estimated cost of Rs 1,000 crores. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

MEXICAN OIL RIG--Having received the Government's approval to its six-well-Rs 122-crore, off-shore exploration programme in the Mahanadi basin, the State-owned Oil India, Ltd. has now reached an understanding with Mexico's Protexa to charter a jack-up type rig for drilling these wells. The daily rate for the off-shore drilling rig is between \$35,000 formal and \$37,000, according to Union Energy Ministry sources. A contract is expected to be signed next week. Oil India's exploration programme, slated for completion by 1984-85, is within the 12,000 sq-km of Petroleum Exploration Licence area granted to it in 1978 in the Mahanadi basin off-shore. The firm has already drilled two wells, Mahanadi One and Mahanadi Two under this licence. The credit for quick work on the exploration programme is due to Oil India's chairman, Mr C. R. Jagannathan. Mr. C. R. Ratnam, the manager, is in charge of all exploration activity in the Mahanadi basin off-shore (12,000 sq-km), Mahanadi basin on-shore (6,800 sq-km) and the adjacent north-east off-shore area in the Bay of Bengal (11,000 sq-km). The first well, Mahanadi III, under the intensive off-shore exploration programme, is expected to be spudded-in in early December, and will have an objective depth of anything between 3,500 and 4,500 metres. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 18 Nov 82 p 1]

K. P. S. MENON DIES--K. P. S. Menon, former Indian envoy to the U.S.S.R., died at Ottapalam today after a heart attack. He was 84. Mr. Menon's wife was at his bedside when the end came at 4 p.m. Mr. Menon had a fall two months ago and was under treatment for some time. According to the Palghat district collector, Mr. Mohammed Hanifa, his son, Mr. K. P. S. Menon (Jr.), who is now in Japan, is being informed of his father's death. Mr. V. R. Krishna Iyer, former judge of the supreme court, in a condolence message described Mr. Menon as "a super diplomat, a brilliant civil servant and a patriot who served the nation in many distinguished roles." The Kerala chief minister, Mr. K. Karunakaran, said that India had lost an able diplomat, writer, orator and administrator. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 22 Nov 82 p 1]

HOLIDAYS IN 1983--Diwali, Dussehra, Guru Nanak's birthday, Id-uz-Zoha, Christmas and Mahavir Jayanti are among the 13 occasions to be compulsorily observed as holidays in all the Central Government offices throughout the country, in 1983, under a new policy announced by the Centre today, reports PTI. These 13 occasions will be among a total of 16 holidays allowed by the Centre for its offices. Under the policy which takes effect from January 1, next, besides the three national holidays--the Republic Day, Independence Day and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday--the other 10 compulsory holidays will be on Buddha Purnima, Christmas, Diwali, Dussehra, Good Friday, Guru Nanak's birthday, Id-ul-Fitr, Id-uz-Zoha, Mahavir Jayanti and Muharrum. The three remaining holidays may be chosen from out of the following festival occasions on a year-to-year basis: An additional day for Dussehra Holi, Janmashtami, Ramnavami Maha Shivratri, Ganesh (Vinayak) Chaturthi, Makara Samkranti, Pongal, Rath Yatra, Onam, Sri (Vasant) Panchami, Vishnu Vaisakhi. The remaining nine occasions, after choosing the three optional holidays from the above list, will be included in the list of restricted holidays. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 17 Nov 82 p 9]

ENVOY TO MAURITIUS--Mr Madan Gajudhur has been appointed Mauritian High Commissioner to India with residence in New Delhi. A communique issued here today said Mr Gajudhur's nomination has been approved by the Indian Government. Mr Gajudhur, 55, a lawyer, practised for about 19 years in India in the Patna High Court and has spent 12 years in Mauritius. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Nov 82 p 8]

CSO: 4600/1378

CLOSE TIES WITH PAKISTAN CRITICIZED

TA052149 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT
5 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The U.S.-Subservient Pakistan Is the Foe of Anti-U.S. Iran"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The visit by Mr Nateq-nuri, the Islamic Republic of Iran's interior minister, to Pakistan, his inspection of the Afghan mercenaries' camps, and his promise on behalf of the government to the effect that the Islamic government will continue its assistance to the Afghan fugitives, have caused the deep concern of the sincere followers of the revolution's and the imam's genuine line and of the true forces of the revolution.

As we are observing, some of the government figures of the Islamic Revolution of Iran are striving with utmost power to consolidate friendship between revolutionary and anti-U.S. Iran and the subservient and anti-people Pakistan. They present the U.S.-subservient Pakistan as the friend and supporter of Iran. It appears that they are intentionally and deliberately closing their eyes to indisputable facts, little aware that Iran's ever-on-the-scene people see everything as it is.

Yes, the sincere followers of the revolution's and the imam's genuine line and the true forces of the revolution are observing that the facts all indicate the inaccuracy of the claims of officials who desire the establishment of cordial relations with the American Pakistan. Even according to the contents of our homeland's licensed newspapers they are observing that Pakistan is the foe of revolutionary Iran, and that all its measures are aimed at implementing the plans of the U.S. espionage service and the Pentagon, both with regard to the region's countries and with regard to revolutionary and anti-U.S. Iran and Afghanistan. How can a country whose leaders are totally dominated by the CIA and the Pentagon be the friend and supporter of anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. Iran? How can a country in which the Americans are absolute rulers assist in promoting Iran's anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. policy? Logic and sound wisdom reject from the very foundation the claim of government figures who support the establishment of cordial relations with Pakistan. Reports and developments as well all point to rejection of the unfounded

claims of those who desire close friendship and cordial ties with the U.S.-subservient Pakistan, and to confirmation of the increasing dependence of this country on America and the region's reaction.

One of the reports which should serve as an alarm bell to our homeland's government figures and authorities is the report concerning the establishment of a new military alliance with the active participation of Pakistan, instead of the aggressive imperialist Cento Pact. Some time ago THE PATRIOT newspaper, published in India, wrote the following about the new decision by the strategic planners of the White House: America is forming, under its supervision, a new military alliance in the Persian Gulf in order to use it instead of the collapsed Cento Pact. On the basis of the views of Washington's strategic planners, the countries of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Bahrain are to be members of this new military alliance.

THE PATRIOT newspaper explains the aim of forming this new military alliance and writes: The aim is to prevent the development of political transformations in the oil-producing region of the Persian Gulf that are unfavorable to the United States, and to give legitimacy to U.S. presence in this region and in the Indian Ocean. While mentioning the U.S. military bases in Bahrain, Somalia and Kenya, and the very important U.S. naval base in Diego Garcia; the employment of a substantial number of Pakistan's military personnel in Saudi Arabia and Oman, and the instruction given by these personnel to the armed forces of Saudi Arabia and Oman in the use of U.S. weapons; the military training by personnel of the Omani Army in Pakistan; the military training by members of Pakistan's armed forces in the U.S. military base in Diego Garcia; and the immense financial aid by Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, including payment for the cost of F-16 fighter-bombers which America has sold to Pakistan, THE PATRIOT newspaper writes: The main role in forming the new military alliance by the United States in the Persian Gulf region has been assigned to Pakistan, and the United States is providing Islamabad with immense financial aid to implement its strategic plan.

In this article the Indian newspaper, PATRIOT, also discloses Washington's aid within the framework of the so-called comprehensive economic-military deal to the value of \$3.2 billion as a military grant to Pakistan, and writes: In return for obtaining the most modern arms, Pakistan is ready to place Gwatar Harbor at the disposal of the Pentagon.

These are the indisputable facts with regard to the total dependence of Pakistan's military regime on the aggressive America. The sincere followers of the imam's and the revolution's popular and anti-imperialist line and the true forces of the revolution, relying on painful realities, cannot conceal their deep concern at the attempt by a number of government figures for the establishment of cordial and close friendship with Ziaul Haq's American regime; particularly when there is even talk about military cooperation with Pakistan against Afghanistan's independent, democratic and anti-U.S. government.

Our on-the-scene people consider Ziaul Haq's Pakistan as a regime wholly dependent on America, and as a regime that is the foe of independent and anti-U.S. Iran. In the view of our homeland's people, any attempt for rapprochement with the U.S.-subservient Pakistan is an attempt against the existence of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

'NVOI' ON U.S. EXPLOITATION OF IRAN-IRAQ WAR

TA072026 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT
7 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Only in the Interest of America"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The U.S. imperialists are taking advantage of the imposed war on our homeland. Above all, America is using this war as a pretext to move a powerful naval force to the Persian Gulf region. At present the basis of all Washington's calculations is to establish its total military domination over our region. With the achievement of this goal, America intends to suppress liberation movements, to impose its strategic and military views on our Islamic Republic and other countries, and in the final analysis to control unchallenged the Middle East's oil.

In order to justify Washington's neocolonialist policy, they have concocted a theoretical basis in the form of a so-called doctrine of war for the sake of mineral raw materials. They believe in Washington that the era for launching such a war has arrived. In this doctrine, the constant escalation of U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region, the extensive use of the aggressive rapid deployment forces, and the establishment of military alliances with the participation of Arab reactionary regimes has been predicted. Currently they do not hide the point in Washington that continuous war in the Persian Gulf creates the most favorable conditions for achieving the abovementioned aims.

The WASHINGTON POST reports that the Reagan administration believes that these conflicts can even lead to further rapprochement between the Arab conservative governments and America. The propaganda organizations of the United States and its NATO allies are striving constantly and in an artificial manner not only to widen the schism of differences between the Islamic Republic and Iraq, but also between Arab countries--those that support Iraq and states that support the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this connection, Washington is pursuing a two-sided goal.

By incessant repetition of the possibility and inevitability of Iran's victory over Iraq, and allegedly Iran's future aggression against the region's countries, they hope in Washington not only to incite and encourage these countries to provide financial and military aid to Iraq, but also to involve them in this war.

As the WASHINGTON POST has written, certain circles in the Reagan administration support the prospect of U.S. armed intervention in support of Arab regimes against Iran. And without doubt, the military maneuvers of the United States and the Arab countries in the Persian Gulf region must be regarded in this respect as an exercise.

Washington's other calculation is that the war's prolongation and the extension of its sphere of operations and the participation of other countries in it, will inevitably increase confrontation among Arab states, and will consequently hinder the plan of struggle by the Arab world in connection with eradicating the fatal consequences of Israel's aggression and a solution of the Middle East problems in general.

Currently, America is very satisfied that as a result of disputes in the region two neighboring countries are being undermined. The calculation of the Americans is that as a result of being undermined and of losing their main material and human forces, the participants in this war will come to their knees when reconstructing the damages resulting from the war. For example, in order to bring its oil production to the pre-war level, Iraq requires a time span of between 5 to 10 years. At present Iraq's oil income has been reduced to one-third. In our homeland, too, the situation in this respect is no better than that of the other side in the conflict. Many production units in our homeland are working at half their capacity due to a shortage or lack of raw materials or spare parts. In comparison with the year 1357 [21 March 78-20 March 79], national income has decreased by about 40 percent. But this is not what only matters. Without doubt, an end to the war, by taking into consideration our nation's legitimate demands, will allow our ever-on-the-scene people to foil any plot by imperialism, headed by the United States. This fact will also allow our nation and the Arab nations to exert all their efforts to smash the plots of the aggressor Israel against the world of Islam.

CSO: 4600/181

SOVIET CONTROL OF AFGHANISTAN ATTACKED

GF280626 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 27 Dec 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The 27th of December 1982 marks the beginning of the fourth year of the occupation of Islamic Afghanistan by the occupationist Soviet forces. It will be recalled that at the time when the strengthening of the glorious Islamic movement in the region brought nightmares upon the superpowers and when imperialism utilized all its facilities to crush the movements aimed at achieving Islamic revolutions, the world of Islam witnessed yet another crime. This tragic incident began by the movement of Soviet forces into Afghanistan under the ridiculous pretext of helping the infidel Afghan regime. Yes, the Islamic world was then witnessing yet another tragic incident which recalled the one resulting in the occupation of sacred land of Palestine, the savage massacre of Muslim Palestinians and the destruction of their homes.

Yes, 3 years ago, the Muslim Afghan people, who suffered severely under the yoke of foreigners who plundered their wealth for years on end, were confronted by the troops of the Soviet Red Army equipped with most up-to-date arms. The communist leaders believed that through their modern arms and well trained forces they would succeed in occupying the Islamic land of Afghanistan, thus realizing Peter the Great's dream of descending to the warm waters of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman.

The attack began by the sudden bloody onslaught of heavy tanks and aircraft. And, the rounds fired from machineguns and rifles dropped the oppressed Muslim Afghan people to the ground as if they were leaves falling in autumn. The Red troops advanced, destroying everything in their path. The defenseless people took refuge in mountains and caves in order to escape from this savage move. Meanwhile, however, in the face of this incident, the reactionary Arab regimes--which claim that they follow Islam--trifled with the life of the Muslim Afghan people and moved to safeguard their own interests and those of the United States. In fact, they exploited the incident in a way serving their own interests.

Three years have lapsed since this incident and the fourth year has begun. Destroyed cities, towns, villages and fields and dead people and animals constitute the result of the attack against a section of the land of Islam.

Over 4 million people have lost their homes. Thousands of innocent people have either been killed or maimed. However, irrespective of this crime and tragic incidents, the heroic resistance put up by the Muslim Afghans in the course of the past 3 years has proved to the world once again that the people can resist against any one of the most powerful armies in the world without having to depend on any of the superpowers. In fact, in the course of the past week, the resistance and struggle of the Muslim Afghan people against the aggressive Red Army forces continued at full force.

Meanwhile, news agencies have reported that the occupationist Soviet forces have launched widespread attacks against the Muslim Afghan people recently, a time when diplomatic contacts between the two superpowers have been intensified with a view to finding a settlement to the question of Afghanistan. In the course of the past few days, the military aircraft of the occupationist Soviet forces have attacked cities and towns in Afghanistan on several occasions. A total of 12 people have died--most of them women and children--as a result of the Soviet air attack against the positions held by the Afghan fighters in the vicinity of (Leva). Apart from this, in yet another attack against [name indistinct], 14 defenseless people have been killed.

Nevertheless, the Muslim Afghan people are continuing their struggle by exercising great patience in the face of such crimes and tortures. According to news reports, the Afghan fighters have attacked a Soviet military unit destroying 32 tanks and carriers full of military equipment. A total of five Soviet personnel were killed in this attack.

CSO: 4600/173

AFGHAN GUERRILLAS KIDNAP 15 SOVIET ADVISERS

Tall1534 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 11 Jan 83

[Text] Anti-Soviet activities by guerrillas in Afghanistan appear to have taken a new turn with the news that 15 Soviet civilians were kidnapped last week in the Afghan city of Mazar-e Sharif. Reports have come from Western diplomats in Islamabad. (Ian Haw) reports from there:

[Begin (Haw) recording] The diplomats say they have received reports that Mazar-e Sharif is in turmoil after an incident in which a group of Soviet advisers were abducted in broad daylight from the main bazaar last week. The reports were lacking in detail, the diplomats said, but it appeared that between 14 and 16 people were kidnapped, possibly including two women. A number of Afghan women are said to have been interrogated immediately afterwards about the whereabouts of their husbands and sons, but they were quickly released and there was still no information on the fate of the Soviet captives. The diplomats also quoted recent travellers from the western Afghan town of Herat as saying that an Afghan aircraft on an internal passenger flight to Kabul crashed near Herat late last month, and there was mounting evidence that the plane had been shot down by guerrillas.

The sources said military aircraft were now ferrying some passengers between the two cities and the loss of the plane had affected air services in other areas.

It is thought that up till now the guerrillas have rarely shot at civilian aircraft and that such attacks would cause problems for the ruling elite, who have been relying more heavily on air travel because of guerrilla activity on the main road and the damage to the roads caused by the fighting. [end recording]

CSO: 4600/181

ANTI-SOVIET PROVOCATIONS ASSAILED

TA311619 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT
30 Dec 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Events That Only Please America and Its Agents"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The former plots of the U.S. imperialists, which have been foiled one after the other as a result of the people's vigilance, now have attained a new form. What has taken place these days in Tehran and in other towns shows that this time America and its Iranian agents, headed by the Hojjatis, have entered the arena of action against the Iranian revolution by other means and with [words indistinct].

Demonstrations against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and the dissemination of wholly false and provocative items from the Voice and Vision of Iran, and similar items in the newspapers about Afghanistan indicate that this time the plot of America and the counterrevolution has gained a wider aspect. Perhaps imperialist circles have become more hopeful that after so much tumult and after raising the issue of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan--with so much crudeness and unrestraint at that--the problem of America and the dangers posed by it to our homeland's freedom and independence will be dismissed, and that more favorable grounds will be created for implementing their evil aims.

Why should the imperialists not have hopes? Apparently their designs are being implemented in accordance with Brzezinski's guidelines, and now, too, the assault on the Soviet Embassy, which resulted in the strong protest by that government to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is in conformity with those same hopes and expectations of the U.S. plotters; namely, that our people's revolution will be deprived of the political support of the Soviet Government which sincerely defends it, and that consequently Iran will be isolated, with only America and the Iranian Government remaining.

From the viewpoint of the U.S. imperialists and their Iranian agents, what has occurred and is occurring these days in Tehran has created a suitable ground for fanning the fire set ablaze by the foes of the Iranian revolution. Therefore, one can expect that the sworn enemies of our homeland's freedom and independence will become bolder by taking advantage of these conditions. If our realistic government figures do not become fully aware of the nature of these stage-managements and the perils arising from them, and continue to show negligence, the counterrevolution, led by the U.S. imperialists, will strive to [words indistinct].

All those who are truly interested in our homeland's independence and freedom are witnessing these harmful stage-managements with particular concern. Everyone is aware that what intentionally has been raised today as the Afghan problem and the presence of limited units of Soviet military forces in Afghanistan, is not precisely that which is being portrayed by the commentators of Iran's propaganda media simultaneously with the news media of imperialism through unfounded and groundless clamors. The presence of limited units of Soviet military forces in Afghanistan took place on the basis of the United Nations organization charter and in accordance with the explicit request of the legitimate government of Afghanistan. [sentence indistinct] the presence of neighbors on the territory of a friendly and neighboring government has no aim other than to maintain and safeguard the independence and territorial integrity (?of that country), and the gains of the revolution of its people. [words indistinct] the vengeful (?activities) of the enemies of the revolution and the freedom of the Afghan people also are obvious for everyone, namely that they, the imperialists, are not able to destroy the revolution under these conditions. Destroying this revolution, and the regime that has been installed as a result of this revolution, is regarded as an essential problem by America and its associates. Should this revolution be indisputably stabilized, broadened, expanded and perpetuated, the interests of the U.S. monopolists in the region will be endangered. And if the aims of this revolution are achieved amid conditions of the complete stability of the situation in Afghanistan, the toiling people of Pakistan, too, which has been transformed into a U.S. colony, will no longer tolerate so much poverty, suffering and torture, and will break the chain of their captivity. This will signify the termination of the domination of the U.S. imperialists throughout the region. [passage indistinct]

The nature of the majority of Afghan fugitives residing in Iran can be recognized from the very pages of the Iranian press. Except for some deceived persons, the remainder of these so-called struggling Muslims, in accordance with the testimony of our own press, have no work other than plunder, murder and robbery. By raising the Afghan problem, U.S. imperialism and its Iranian mercenary associates have no aim other than changing the direction of the Iranian revolution, other than dismissing the danger of imperialism, and other than [words indistinct] of the vital issues of the Iranian revolution and distorting them.

The enemy-pleasing demonstrations in Tehran and other towns have once again shown the correctness and truth of these statements. There is no doubt that the clear-sighted and realistic government figures of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by pursuing the guidelines of the imam of the nation, who has repeatedly pointed out the danger of dismissing the conspiracies of U.S. imperialism, will refrain from any negligence and mental prejudice, and this time too will foil the plots full of ruses by America, the mercenary elements and the foes of the Iranian revolution, and America and its Iranian lackeys will not succeed in inciting and provoking the rioters against our homeland's friendly and neighboring governments.

SIGNIFICANCE OF FUNCTIONS OF ASSEMBLY OF EXPERTS EXPLAINED

Paris LE MONDE in French 12-13 Dec 82 p 4

[Article by Jean Gueyras]

[Text] Imam Khomeyni was one of the first to vote on Friday, 10 December, to elect an assembly of 83 religious experts (mojtahed) that may be called on, in accordance with the Iranian Constitution, to name a successor to the guide of the revolution. A total of 146 religious men of established theological competence had presented themselves as candidates for the assembly.

On this Saturday, it is still not possible to judge the extent of participation by Iranians in this vote, and this participation was a main concern of the political leaders during the final hours of the election campaign. "This vote must be a punch against imperialism and the enemies of Islam." This was the final slogan, repeated ad nauseam, to bring voters over age 15 to the polls. Imam Khomeyni had promoted the election with all his authority, declaring in a special message that "choosing the experts is a holy duty."

On Friday, at the last minute two "ozma" (high) ayatollahs, Mohammad Reza Golpayegani and Hoseyni Marashi Najafi, positioned at the top of the Shiite hierarchy, also broke their previous silence to urge Iranians to vote. Teheran Radio even broadcast on Friday a communique by Ayatollah Golpayegani "to deny rumors of a boycott of the election" and hope "that those elected will perform their demanding responsibilities in the best possible way."

These elections to the assembly of experts were combined with partial legislative elections to replace deputies assassinated over the past few years, as well as those whose elections in 1980 were invalidated.

The formation of the assembly of experts ends a long period of uncertainty. The law establishing the institution had been approved in October 1980 and signed by the imam in January 1981. However, thereafter no steps were taken to organize the public election provided for in the Islamic Constitution.

It was said in this connection that the imam was emotionally opposed to having the subject of his succession discussed while he was still alive, and, above all, did not want to have to coexist with an elected figure who--at

least theoretically--would have the right to "take over his responsibility as 'faqih' (Umma religious guide)," if he "was no longer capable of fulfilling his legal duties."

It appears that Imam Khomeyni, whose state of health, although declining, does not for the moment give cause for serious concern, was finally persuaded by the arguments of those among his entourage who believe that establishment of such a conclave "would pull the rug out from under those who had set their hope on a vacuum developing after the imam's demise." The new assembly of experts does have the power in the event of death of the "faqih" to appoint a new religious guardian having "the same qualities as the imam and universally respected." If there were no consensus on the choice of a dignitary, the assembly would appoint a trusteeship council of three to five "faqih."

However, this latter alternative does not please Imam Khomeyni and his associates, who believe that a joint leadership, even an Islamic one, would contain the seeds of future conflicts of interest and pose a potential danger to the survival of Islamic rule after the departure of the religious guide. Thus, for more than a year they have been trying to convince their colleagues of the necessity of selecting a single successor in the person of Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, in whom they have full confidence. The ayatollah, who is reportedly married to Imam Khomeyni's sister, is, indeed, fully devoted to the "faqih," whose political-religious views he unreservedly shares, and specifically those concerning the "velayat-e faqih," which gives the Umma religious guide the right of review over temporal matters.

However, the naming of Ayatollah Montazeri will not be an easy task. This official candidate to succeed the imam is far from having the charisma that enabled Ayatollah Khomeyni to impose his rule. Also, he is violently opposed by some of his peers who feel that he does not have the political and religious qualities necessary to carry out the heavy responsibilities of the "faqih." The 60-year-old Ayatollah Montazeri, in addition to not being very popular, also has the handicap of poor health as a result of the many years he spent in the Shah's prisons.

The opposition to Ayatollah Montazeri's candidacy is primarily of a political nature. The high ayatollahs, who would like to share power within a joint leadership of three or five members, are opposed, though they do not say so openly, to the concepts of the "velayate faqih" that has given Khomeyni the prerogatives of "guardian of the people."

Thus, election of the assembly will no doubt not put an end to the divisions in the Shiite clergy or to the struggle for influence among its various factions in regard to the succession. However, it may succeed--and this is apparently the hope of Imam Khomeyni and his closest colleagues--in limiting this struggle to the narrow circle of the Islamic leadership, without, for the present, endangering the cohesion of the government.

9920

CSO: 4619/9

'NVOI' APPEALS TO KHOMEYNI FOR FRIENDLY IRAN-AFGHAN TIES

TA101207 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT
9 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary: "Revolutionary and Anti-U.S. Afghanistan Is the Friend and Associate of Revolutionary and Anti-imperialist Iran"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The true forces of the revolution, who are the supporters and followers of true Islam and the Islam of Khomeyni, request the imam of the nation to exert adequate efforts and endeavor for the speedy establishment of normal and friendly relations with the government of the oppressed of Afghanistan. This issue confirms that our people has realized with the most resolute faith that the development and perpetuation of the Afghan revolution is irreversible, and that any attempt aimed at interference in the internal affairs of the fraternal people of this neighboring country is doomed to failure.

The Iranian people are well aware that no danger whatsoever is posed by the presence of limited units of Soviet military forces in Afghanistan to our revolutionary homeland, Iran. It is an undeniable fact that the Soviet Union does not have the slightest territorial ambitions in Afghanistan, and that the presence of limited units of its military forces in Afghanistan took place only for the purpose of carrying out an international duty based on the agreement concluded between that country and the Soviet Government.

It is only the foes of the Afghan people and revolution who raise obstacles and problems in the way of progress and the creation of a new, independent and free life. In our own emancipated homeland, Iran, as well there are certain persons who are afraid of the perpetuation and expansion of the popular and anti-imperialist revolution in Afghanistan, which is being implemented in the interest of that country's toiling and deprived people, the same way that a genie fears the name of God. For, they are well aware that the gains of the Afghan revolution and the progress achieved by the democratic and independent Afghan Government can serve as a model for Iran's working people. Indeed, are not our self-sacrificing people at present most emphatically demanding the implementation of the slogans that the imam of the nation had put forward at the outset of the revolution?

The true forces of the revolution and all realistic figures support a solution of the Afghan problem through political means, and the normalization of relations between anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. Iran and Afghanistan. There are ways and possibilities for solving this problem, and these ways and possibilities have been put forward and specified in the practical proposals of the democratic Afghan Government. The achievement of this issue involves one thing only, namely the termination of armed intervention from abroad and noninterference in the internal affairs of independent, democratic and anti-U.S. Afghanistan.

However, as far as the presence of limited units of Soviet military forces in Afghanistan is concerned, Babrak Karmal, head of the Afghan Government, has said in this connection: This issue concerns only the mutual relations of the two governments--the Afghan Government and the Soviet Union. For, these limited units came to this country upon the request and invitation of the legal Afghan Government. Babrak Karmal added that these limited military units will remain in our country so long as no international guarantee is given with respect to the cessation of any interference, aggression and provocation against Afghanistan.

CSO: 4600/181

'TEHRAN TURKISH' ATTACKS BRITISH RACISM

GFkk9599 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 9 Jan 83

[From "The World Oppressors Are Facing Crises" program]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, the crises which have hit the world oppressors-- be they economic, social or cultural--have attained very broad dimensions. These crises, which become intensified in the mid 1970s, have brought nothing but rising prices, inflation and unemployment to the oppressed and the poor. The situation that results in the end from economic systems based on capitalism is the exploitation of people which leads to great losses in all aspects of life in countries under hegemony.

Naturally, the pressure resulting from these crises is felt more on the poor and oppressed sectors of the community. It is from these sectors that major protests are voiced and resistance movements are organized as a consequence. Strikes stages over the past few months in the social and economic fields have attained broader horizons in other fields as well. The number of people who have been participating in such demonstrations, which are against unemployment, war, racism and other issues, is gradually increasing.

The pressure brought to bear upon international oppressors by the people under oppression through this way is shaking the stand of the said oppressors from its foundations, giving the hope in the meantime that their fall is drawing closer. Meanwhile, let us recall that Britain is being regarded as the most fragile link in the infidel and atheist system in the world. Most naturally, protest demonstrations, strikes and marches have been taking place in that country one after the other for quite a long time now.

This state of affairs is indicative of the fact that the social and economic situation of Britain has fallen into an impasse of gradually intensifying instability. The former colonialist leaders of Britain know well that protest demonstrations, clashes and strikes by workers in the country against unemployment, racism, high cost of living, rearmament, immorality and cultural [word indistinct] stem from the deeply rooted crises in the economic, social and cultural fields. They also know that the crises in that community and the struggle the people are waging against the ruling systems are directly related to the crises in the existing oppressive systems.

The section of people subjected to the heaviest pressure in Britain is the most deprived non-white community. Because of the oppression brought to bear on them and because of cases of deportation during the past years, the members of this community revolted on several occasions in London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and other cities and clashed with the racist British police using Molotov cocktails, stones, sticks and glass bottles.

The movement of the non-whites in Britain, which was the result of frustration stemming from class discrimination, and the strong and united stand of the Conservative Thatcher government, the (?national front), [words indistinct] and fascist groups facilitated the passing of the racist and oppressive immigration law by the British Parliament. This opened a new phase in the downward trend of the colonialist and imperialist governments in the world. On the basis of this law, Britain, which champions human rights in the world, has given itself the right to classify human beings in accordance with the color of their skin and race. And, it is classifying the people with colored skin in Britain as second-class citizens, thus giving a legal appearance to racism.

According to the new British law, the people in Britain have been divided into three categories. These are the British citizens, the overseas citizens and Commonwealth citizens. One special aspect of this law is that the right of citizenship recognized to the children of minorities who are born on British soil has been lifted. The objective behind the Parliament's enactment of this law is to place the responsibility of the economic crises stemming from the wrong systems applied by the capitalists on the non-white people--not to mention the racist propaganda in Britain for years on end.

Prior to her election in 1978, Thatcher said openly as the leader of the Conservative Party that the British people faced the danger of being drowned and lost one day between a mass of people from other cultures. Thus, the emigration of the non-white into Britain has to be stopped.

It is thus obvious that the British Government will henceforth endeavor to rid itself of the existence of the non-white oppressed people and fill the pockets of the dominating circles without having to face any difficulty.

CSO: 4600/181

TEHRAN TURKISH'RAPS NUMAYRI ADMINISTRATION

GF120500 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 10 Jan 83

[From "The Movement of the Oppressed Is Bearing Its Fruits" program]

[Text] Dear listeners, although Sudan is rich with natural resources, it is one of the North African countries in which Muslim people live in poverty and misery. By bringing the dictator Numayri administration to power in Sudan, the world oppressors have succeeded in impeding the economic and cultural development of the Muslims of Sudan.

Nevertheless, during the past few years, they have been faced with strong opposition from the Muslim people of that country, particularly from the students. In the face of the people's objection and struggle, the dictator Numayri regime has lost its bearings and is currently in a state of confusion. In fact, irrespective of the significant aid it has received from its patrons for suppressing the people's struggle and regardless of the strong military measures it has taken within Sudan, it has not succeeded in subduing the struggle of the Muslim people. Even the closure of all the schools and the imposition of a state of emergency in a number of regions in Sudan failed to weaken the strength of the populist struggle. Thus, taking this into consideration, the dictator Numayri administration moved recently to adopt the necessary measures with a view to suppressing the people's struggle and preventing violent actions.

This state of affairs has proved that the mercenary regime in Sudan has been greatly shaken and thus it is resorting to every kind of move in order to remain on its feet. By ratifying a law protecting the general law and order in Sudan, the Numayri regime has in fact legalized the inhuman and violent measures it has put into effect against the Muslim people. Obviously it intends to appear before the revolutionary Muslim people of Sudan in such a capacity.

According to JANA reporting from Khartoum, every kind of anti-regime gatherings and demonstrations in Sudan have been banned on the basis of the new law. The violators of this law have been threatened with extremely severe punishment. The police and the army have been empowered to resort to severe measures with a view to crushing even the most insignificant moves within the

ranks of the people. Although the forces loyal to Numayri have not refrained from massacring the people until now, the move which has resulted in legalizing strong and suppressive measures has caused deep concern in the masses which struggle for justice in the world.

If, therefore, international organizations are truly functioning for safeguarding human rights, then they should raise their voice of opposition against such inhuman initiatives. It is common knowledge, however, that the crimes and savage actions of the mercenary regime in Sudan against the Muslims will not succeed in saving the shaken Numayri administration. They will, in fact, further intensify the anti-regime activities and force the crisis-ridden regime to fall on its knees.

Through their exemplary will and determination in their struggle, the Muslims of Sudan will lead the Islamic revolution to victory and save the country from falling into pieces. The Iranian Muslims and the Muslims living in other parts of the world will side with the Muslims of Sudan in this endeavor.

CSO: 4600/181

'TEHRAN TURKISH' ATTACKS MITTERRAND OVER MIDDLE EAST

GF111006 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 10 Jan 83

[Unattributed commentary: "The Strategic Policy of French Socialists Is Aimed at Supporting Zionism"]

[Text] It is common knowledge that two of the ministers of the French Socialist Government have recently embarked on a visit to the Gulf region. One of them, the minister of external relations, will visit Bahrain and Qatar in the next 3 days, and the other, minister of defense, will visit Oman.

One of the established objectives of the foreign policy pursued by the French Socialist Government is aimed at giving as much support to global Zionism as possible. It will be recalled that prior to assuming power, Mitterrand, who is known as one of the fervent supporters of the Zionist offensives in the international domain, visited the occupied Islamic land of Palestine to confer with the Zionist terrorists.

After being elected as the president of France, Mitterrand moved to openly support global Zionism and the Zionist regime. He even made it public without hesitation that this was one of the objectives of French foreign policy, thus legalizing his stand. And, with a view to presenting the Zionist regime as legal, Mitterrand launched a series of serious moves in the European continent. In fact, the European governments, which have not been able to send their representatives to the occupied Islamic land of Palestine for many long years and which have been avoiding open talks with the terrorist and pirate officials of the Zionist regime, are currently able to openly announce that the European Parliament session will convene in the occupied Islamic land of Palestine; this is the result of socialist Mitterrand's work in that direction. When Mitterrand visited the occupied Islamic land of Palestine in the past, he chanted the words "Love Live Israel."

The open support the French Socialist Government is presently showing for global Zionism and for the reactionary Arab governments aligned to Zionism gives the impression that this support is one of the objectives of French foreign policy in the region. Mitterrand has also played an important role in persuading reactionary Arab governments to consider a reconciliation with the Zionist regime parallel to improving their bilateral relations with pro-American Egypt.

Within the framework of the French Government's move to support global Zionism, Mitterrand has also moved to give serious support to the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime. According to the French Socialist Government, the Islamic revolution has been strengthened in the region and the Islamic movements based on populist support have spread in a way which has placed a firm obstacle against the aggressive objectives of the Zionist regime and international imperialism. The French Socialist Government, which has realized well that Islamic Iran is the center of Islamic movements based on populist support in the world and in the Middle East, believes that it will be able to weaken the threat against the Zionists in the region by supplying modern arms and ammunition to the Zionist Iraqi Ba'thist regime against the Islamic revolution. Taking this into consideration makes it easier to understand why the French Socialists supply arms to the Iraqi regime. It also must be noted that the French Socialists have played a major role in the Zionist offensive against Lebanon--an offensive which has ruined that country.

The French Government is continuing to support the Iraqi regime particularly at the present time. The visit to France by two officials of the Iraqi Ba'thist Party and Government last week has been regarded as an important development. According to political observers, the support the French Government has been giving to the Iraqi regime is part of the French policy concerning the region. The observers believe that with its new move France is contemplating strengthening the siege of the Iranian Islamic revolution so as to secure a new direction to the crisis in Lebanon and to rescue the Zionist regime which has fallen into a trap in Lebanon.

Meanwhile, it is expected that during their visit to the Gulf countries, the ministers of the French Socialist cabinet will use the Islamic revolution to intimidate the shaykhs and encourage them to give more aid to the Iraqi regime. In their talks with the Arab shaykhs, the socialist ministers will argue that the region is insecure and discuss the question of their rearmament, a move aimed at bringing a comparative relief to the French economy which is in a state of perplexity. The French ministers will also try to present Iran as a threat to the Arabs and encourage them to buy more arms in order to maintain a balance between Iran and the Arabs.

If we take into consideration that in the history of colonialist moves the servants of imperialism have always brought inauspicious news to humanity about death, fire and [word indistinct], we will arrive at the conclusion that the colonialists have always robbed the people through bloodshed and war and forced them into underdevelopness. Thus the objective behind the visit of the French ministers cannot be regarded as being different than the historic experiences of the colonialists. [sentence as heard] The main objective of the visit to the region by the French ministers at a time when Islamic Iran is strong enough to foil any kind of conspiracy is to study closely the trend of Islamic movements in Iran while the war is continuing and to analyze the weakened position of the Zionist Iraqi regime.

BAGHDAD REPORTS MOJAHEDIN-E KHALQ STATEMENT

NC121205 Baghdad in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] The Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO] office in Paris has issued a statement in connection with the empty allegations made by the hireling, reactionary revolution guards with regard to the alleged martyrdom of 80 Mojaheds. Dear listeners, the MKO office has announced that the list of names published by the reactionary corps includes the names of Mojahed combatants who were martyred or arrested during the past 4 months.

After the publication of empty allegations on the arrest or martyrdom of 80 Mojahed combatants by the antipopular guards corps, which was aimed at veiling the defeat and incompetence of the regime in its confrontation with resistance forces, the MKO office in Paris issued a statement in connection with this yesterday. The text of the statement is as follows:

One more case of a false show of strength by Khomeyni's regime: Today the commander of Khomeyni's antipopular revolution guards corps reported the arrest of 80 members of the MKO, but the names of only 14 people were announced who were not connected to recent incidents or who were not arrested during the past 4 months. According to a report by the MKO command in Iran, Brother Mojahed 'Ali Zarkesh, no strategic blow was inflicted by the martyrdom of the late leader Musa Khiyabani, the martyrdom of the symbol of a woman revolutionary Mojahed, Ashraf Rabi'i, and the martyrdom of Mohammad Zabeti in the months of Bahman [ending 19 February] and Ordibehest [ending 21 May] whereas during the past 6 months more than 1,000 elements of the enemy's forces of suppression, among whom one can see the names of 28 commanders of the revolution guards, have been killed.

[Signed] Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization Office,
Paris 8 January 1983

CSO: 4600/181

VITAL ROLE OF REVOLUTION GUARDS HAILED

Achievements Praised by Khomeyni

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 5 Dec 82 p 2

[Editorial by S. Moadab]

[Text]

Imam Khomeini once said "Without Sepah the country could not exist". According to this evaluation made by the founder of the Islamic Republic between our existence and the formation of Sepah there is a vital dependence. We see no need to repeat what is written on various occasions about the role and the importance of Sepah. Any time one speaks of the safety of the Islamic Revolution, of the victories gained in our defense against the Ba'athist forces in the two and a half year war, of eradication of counterrevolutionaries in different regions of Iran, in dismantling the urban terrorist gangs ... the name of the Corps of the Revolutionary Guard or simply Sepah, sacrifices made by its members and achievements made thanks to them, automatically comes before our eyes. All this said the question is, then, why we speak again of Sepah and why we specialize another editorial to it?

This is a good question. It is true that we have spoken of the law and order restored by Sepah along with the Revolutionary Committees. It is also true that we have enumerated its great achievements. But perhaps we have never written a word about its future role in the continuity of the Islamic Revolution or any analysis is ever made in this paper concerning the obedience of law of Sepah itself. In this editorial a few words will be said with regards to these two topics.

Ayatollah Montazeri, one of the beloved Ulema for whom Sepah has a great respect, has ever since Sepah has been formed been giving guidelines to our brave brothers and sisters in the martyrdom loving revolutionary institution. In his latest audience given to a group responsible for the prosecutor's office of Sepah insinuated that because Sepah has been born with the revolution it has a special sacredness and the people expect too much from it. This is

why responsables must pay attention and try to prevent the creation of un-Islamic values. Ayatollah Montazeri pointing out Imam Khomeini's insistence that Sepah must stay away from orientation towards any political party and added "If certain groups or political parties, even if with Islamic titles want to have memberships in Sepah unavoidably this important organ which has been sprouted from the heart of Islamic Revolution in certain time situation will be sensed towards different groups or systems. While this movement is against the wish of Imam and the Ummah."

Why does Ayatollah Montazeri underline the neutrality at this sensitive stage of the Islamic Revolution. Is it not that Sepah is the unique organ in which unconditionally all Islamic rules and orders are being respected? Is it not true that the members of Sepah are samples for righteousness? Then why does the second respected man after Imam give so much importance to the sovereignty of Islamic values in Sepah? The answer simply is that any law executing organ if it disobeys law and if it does not respect values it must realize, not only at present but in the future, it becomes void of the mission it has. Ayatollah Montazeri in fact gives a warning in touching the most sensitive Achilles heel Sepah may one day have.

Sepah is the powerful arm of the revolution. In the name of law and order it can suspect, and arrest suspicious persons. This, in a revolutionary country in which a profound social change is made for the sake of liberty, is a very great task and every member of Sepah must obey word by word and letter by letter the Islamic teachings in doing their heavy job.

Man is fallible. But a revolutionary could fall sooner and faster than any ordinary person. In the name of the revolution and for the sake of Islam any devoted young revolutionary guard is vulnerable to a personal interpretation of law and automatically an overindulgence. Knowing that day by day the responsibility of Sepah is becoming heavier and heavier, this timely warning of Ayatollah Montazeri is warmly welcomed. The great Ayatollah goes on in giving advice to the dear Sepah members in calling them to avoid leaving Sepah in direction of a group or party even Islamic. In fact, as he insists, this emphasis is a repetition of Imam's insistence. Knowing that Sepah is born with and must remain at the service of the Islamic Revolution. Knowing that, as Imam has very often said, this revolution does not belong to a special person, group or political party. Then it is natural that Sepah also remain a property which either it belongs to all the Muslim people of Iran or to no one. The reason why up to now

Sepah has gained such a tremendous respect and popularity is that it has remained neutral and unbiased. Sepah and its members are called the army which should liberate all the oppressed people, in the Islamic world at least. How can such a great Islamic force not be united and coherent inside itself. And who does not know that unity and coherence is absent whenever different tendencies exist. Sepah is at the service of Velayat-e Faghih. We all remember how Baniadr was trying to influence this important organ and how Sepah refused him.

Even though at present Sepah is, with the army, a very important backbone of the Islamic Revolution. Knowing that our brothers and sisters in Sepah are among the most devoted men and women to Islam. And acknowledging that as Imam said if Sepah did not exist the country was nonexistent we must welcome the warnings of Ayatollah Moneazeri.

War Record Extolled

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 5 Dec 82 p 6

[Text] TEHRAN, Dec. 4 (IRNA)--The Islamic Revolutionary Guard's political branch has just published a book on the Iraqi imposed war, entitled simply "Two Years of War"

It is the first historical and detailed report of the war and includes several never-before-published events and records in this regard.

In addition, since the IRGC has been one of the most important participants in defending the Islamic Revolution, this work could very well be one of the most accurate accounts of the events which shaped these two years, both in the fronts and in the rear lines of the war

Describing the extent of Iran's awareness and preparedness prior to Iraq's all-out offensive on Sept. 22, 1980 it writes that as early as mid 1979 the provisional government of Mehdi Bazargan was aware of Iraqi military activity near Iran's border which showed signs of that country's preparations for a widespread aggression against Iran and the Islamic Revolution. However, neither the army nor the IRGC were prepared to even think of measures to counter this development.

Moreover, the thought prevailing over the provisional government was that if Iran did not bother Iraq the latter would leave Iran in peace. This, it said, was a great mistake which stemmed from a lack of understanding of the identity of the Islamic Revolution, which could not be tolerated by Iraq or other reactionary governments in the region.

Iraq Attacks Unprepared Islamic Republic

The army had not yet become Islamized and the IRGC was constantly preoccupied with internal issues like Kurdistan and was under pressure from Banisadr and his followers. Besides the IRGC forces had little training and experience in warfare.

Under these circumstances, Iraq initiated its first major clash with the Iranian border forces on Sept. 5, 1980 in the western region of the country and soon after south on September 21, only a day before its full-scale aggression. Without meeting any major deterrent the Iraqi forces occupied vast regions of the Islamic Republic.

The only element which stopped the massive Iraqi war machine were the people and the popular forces who stood up against the aggressors defying all human logic, the book adds. One vivid point given to prove this claim was the resistance of only groups of IRGC and Basij (Mobilization) forces in Khorramshahr for more than a month with weapons no more effective than RPG-7's. Moreover the people had witnessed and experienced the counter-revolutionaries and their various conspiracies, thus being prepared to confront the Iraqi aggression.

Banisadr Hinders War Effort

After the Iraqi aggression was finally contained, there were two conflicting proposals as to how the Iraqis should be repelled. The book notes that the Western-educated liberals and the forces following the line of Imam Khomeini were at odds on the issue. The first group believed in a strategy of conventional warfare i.e. tanks against tanks, and artillery fire against artillery fire. The second group however, believed that since the Iraqi aggression was launched basically because of the very nature of the Islamic Revolution, the people should play a major role in the war through

their mobilization. This view later proved to be the key to the success of the Islamic forces.

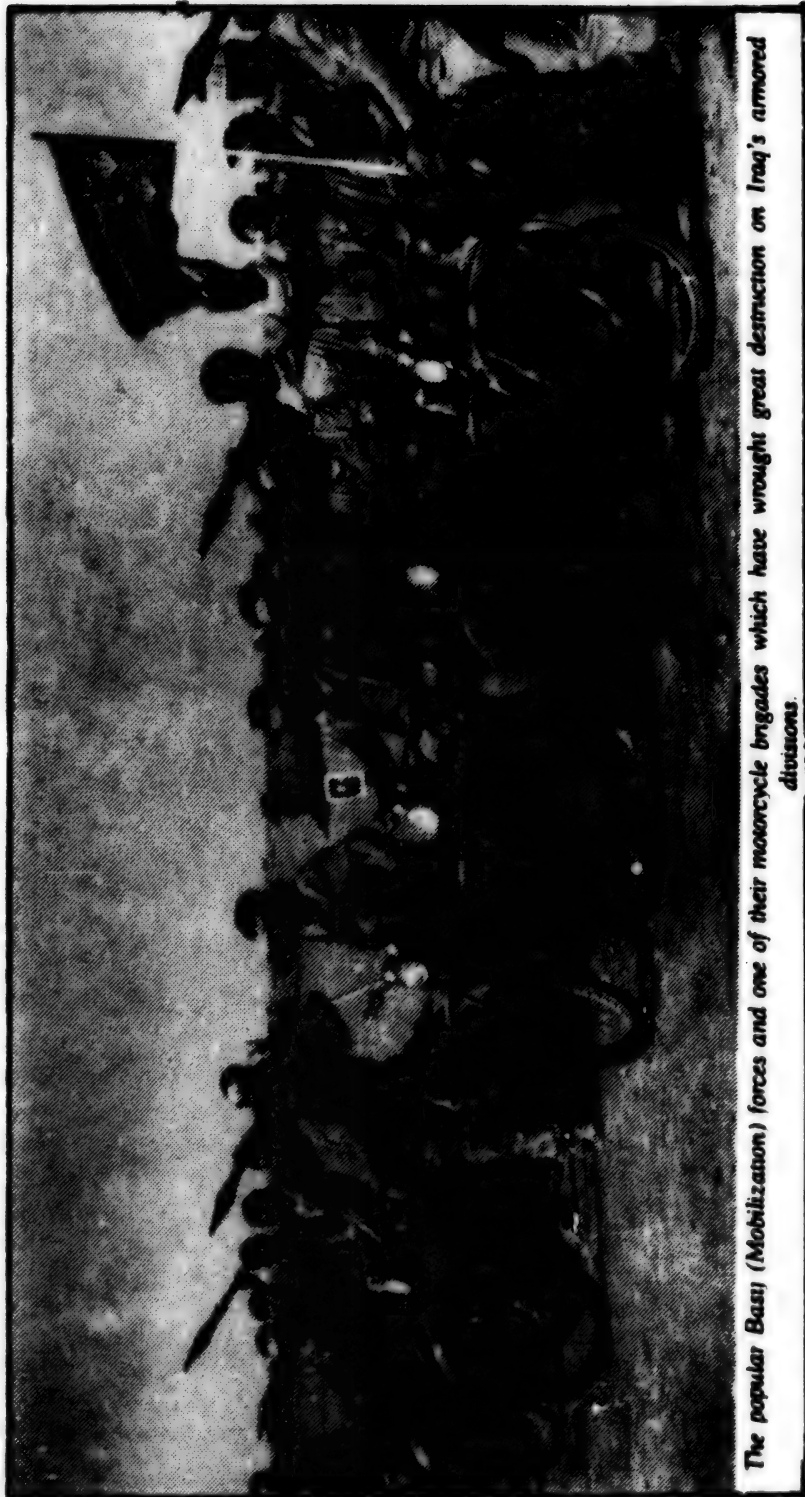
Nevertheless the liberals headed by Banisadr, then the commander-in-chief of the armed forces went ahead with their strategy and attempted three attacks against the Iraqi forces in the south of the country between Oct. 15, 1980 and Jan. 10, 1981. All three attempts failed completely and all three were launched by the army's regular forces with the limited participation of the IRGC and other popular armed groups.

IRGC Takes Initiative Near Susangerd

The next development after these unsuccessful operations was the gradual emergence of the IRGC and the popular forces as alternative elements for offensive operations. Two months after the army's last attempt, on March 17, 1981, a group of 200 IRGC men to the unbelief of the army officers, launched their first limited attack against the Iraqi forces just outside the town of Susangerd, in Khuzestan Province. It said that about 100 Iraqis were killed, 68 taken captive, and 30 tanks and personnel carriers of the enemy were destroyed against only 13 martyrs given by the Islamic forces.

"Our main victory as a result of this operation was that our brothers in the army realized that such tactics could also be deployed," the book adds. A number of similar limited attacks followed, with equal success and further proved that the IRGC's strategy was more feasible.

Despite this, Banisadr continued to shun the IRGC and even refused to allow the IRGC commanders to attend joint armed forces commanders' meetings. In addition, he was the main element who tried to sow most discord between the IRGC and the army.



The popular Base (Mobilization) forces and one of their motorcycle brigades which have wrought great destruction on Iraq's armored divisions

IRANIAN BIMONTHLY ASSAILS BAHRAINI REGIME

GF270934 Tehran AL-SHAHID in Arabic 1 Dec 82 pp 14, 15

[Article by As'ad al-Rashid: "Al Khalifah on the Road to Rapid Deployment"]

[Text] As the Bahraini people prepare to celebrate the first anniversary of last year's events that were allegedly termed a "conspiracy" and during which hundreds of pious people were victimized through barbaric detention--many of whom were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and among whom was the 73-member apostolic pious group that was tyrannically sentenced by the Al Khalifah authorities--3 of them were sentenced to life imprisonment and the rest to terms of imprisonment ranging from 7 to 15 years--at this time, the 6-country summit--the number of the Star of David's points--which is known for its "tribal" cooperation ended its meeting in Bahrain following several months of preparation. During this period many meetings of interior, foreign and defense ministers, and so on, were held. Foremost of the worries that were discussed by the ministers was the issue of security and defense which suffers major deficiencies and a big irreparable rift due to the escalation of revolutionary religious consciousness among the Muslim masses. In this regard, the Saudi regime's interior minister, Nayif Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, said: "The interior ministers are working to strengthen the unified security structure in a uniform way in order to form a strong crucible capable of confronting all sorts of existing, unforeseen, overt or hidden challenges." The interior minister of the Al Khalifah regime Muhammad al Khalifah also said: "The meeting is significant because it deals with the security and stability of the region."

Since the GCC summit conferences which followed the events in Bahrain last year--the so-called conspiracy--paid great attention to the issue of security and defense which has almost deprived them of their peace of mind, and in light of the security agreements which the regimes rushed to sign incited by the "leadership"--the maniac regime of al Sa'ud--in light of all this, new political developments emerged in the Gulf arena, especially Bahrain. The effect of the upsurge and the escalation of Islamic Jihad consciousness among the Muslim Bahraini masses have left deep, immediate and future concern internally and externally on all levels whether on the level of the masses or the regimes.

Of course, last year's events were not the main factor that made these regimes rush to fortify their spider houses "and surely the frailest of all houses is the house of the spider" [Koranic verse], but they form a wide background

whose features will be tackled extensively. Nonetheless, the events in Bahrain have uncovered the regimes' and al Khalifah's shortcomings and made them hysterically focus on security and defense, make security agreements, form a joint military command, unify arms sources and make similar decisions at meetings of the defense and interior ministers.

It is no secret to our Islamic masses in the Gulf and especially in revolutionary Bahrain that the strong military and security trend of the Gulf regimes is nothing more than an American policy of suppressing the popular revolutions and Islamic movements via the United States' client instruments in the region-- "an action without clamor"--and the implementation of former U.S. President Nixon's doctrine. In this regard, Michael (Clare), an American researcher at the Institute for Strategic Studies said: "The failure of intervention and political turbulence at home has led to the reassessment of the defense policy. Washington's direct attention was focused on finding a way to bolster regimes without deploying combat units. This is what led to the Nixon doctrine in 1969."

When Nixon became president, U.S. Assistant Defense Secretary James (Neways) said: "In 1969 the National Security Council decided that the basic responsibility for security and stability in the Gulf should from now on be shouldered by the region's countries provided that the United States supply them with arms and equipment according to the spirit of the Nixon doctrine."

A quick review of the statements made by Gulf rulers that then "responsibility for stability and security should be shouldered by the countries of the region" and the recent defense ministers' meeting regarding the "unification of arms sources"--that is the United States--and the fact that the U.S. administration is currently working to get approval to sell six advanced F-5 fighters to Al Khalifah, clearly shows the tasks assigned to the Gulf regimes and the role the United States has given to the region's rulers in order to carry out the task of the "U.S. Rapid Deployment Force" indirectly with the aim of suppressing domestic upsurges.

For further clarification, in an interview in the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, an assistant to former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger revealed beyond any doubt the dimensions and reality of the role of the Rapid Deployment Force. He said: "The objectives of the Rapid Deployment Force has been changed from resisting external dangers to resisting internal ones."

It is no coincidence that the Americans would one day think logically, teach their agents logic, or presumably remember the famous saying: If someone cannot defend his land or maintain his security, others will not be able to do so. Therefore, they reconsidered their previous policy of direct intervention and formed another smart and wicked plan to be carried out by local agents, the shocked Gulf instruments. The security agreement that Al Khalifah regime was the first to sign with its brothers was the most prominent step [of] that plan.

This step could be more intelligent than the plan of direct rapid interference which former U.S. State Department Undersecretary Alexis Johnson referred to as being "a painful, costly and disrupting act."

The U.S. magazine TIME carried in its 25 October issue a statement by a Saudi official within a political analysis of the situation of the Gulf. The Saudi official said: "We want the United States, maybe not above the horizon but at the horizon so that we can see it but not on the land." In the same article, the prime minister of the Khalifite regime, Khalifah Ibn Salman al Khalifah, said: "I absolutely favor the maneuvers. I welcome full cooperation with the United States in order to preserve security in our region provided this takes place in a suitable atmosphere"--implying out of sight.

Such agents as the likes of Khalifah Ibn Salman constitute an obedient tool which substitutes for direct interference. Moreover they have the elements and the capabilities which ensure that the United States preserves its interests and consequently refrains from direct involvement in an operation which has unfavorable consequences. The best example of this are the huge arbitrary arrests, and the continuous oppression of the revolting faithful masses in Bahrain in addition to the security agreements between the Al Khalifah rulers and the Saudi regime on the one hand and the other reactionary regimes in the Gulf on the other where all this constitutes a kind of indirect interference.

The revolutionaries who have a mission did not have things happen without strict control. The faithful and the Mujahidin children of the masses in Bahrain succeeded in revealing these kinds of conspiracies to the world and particularly to the oppressed Islamic peoples by divulging the savage and cowardly practices of this regime in addition to the crimes which the Al Khalifah rulers committed--and still do--against the faithful people--against whom injustice is perpetrated--where this perpetually defames the history of this regime.

The kind of torture that is perpetrated by the Al Khalifah clique against those who denounce the oppression and the confiscation of freedom astounds everybody. The best example of this is the photo which the Islamic Front for the liberation of Bahrain published for the immortal martyr Jamil al-'Ali where the fractures and the holes are clearly seen in his body.

In addition, Siddiqah al-Musawi, the woman who spent a period of time in the Bahrain prisons of terrorism, revealed the savage methods that are adopted by the regime to oppress the faithful. She also informed us that U.S. and British experts--such as Bill, Shore and Henderson--supervise the torture. This woman was subjected to the most severe kinds of physical and psychological torture. Therefore, in order to cover these crimes, Al Khalifah made up some unfounded "James Bondic" tales.

The truth is that what is taking place in Bahrain is merely a clear revolution. Some examples are:

1. Upheavals and continuous marches call for the toppling of the regime and the establishment of an Islamic government. The most outstanding march was the march on Jerusalem Day and on the funeral of Jamil al-'Ali.

2. The arbitrary arrests which included many of the faithful among whom are the Mujahidin clergymen such as Shaykh 'Abbas al-Sha'ir and the struggler Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-'Akri who demanded reforms and consequently was arrested by the Al Khalifah authorities. He was imprisoned and is currently spending his third year in prison without standing trial.

3. Oppressing and striking at popular moves which are escalating such as the condolences processions in Muharram which were converted into a religious, political demonstration against the regime.

4. Since the revolution and the upheaval was led by clergymen the [Bahraini] authorities arrested a number of them such as al-'Akri and ash-Sha'ir and deported others such as the Mujahid Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Hadi Modarresi in addition to spreading lies and rumors against them. The clergymen's leadership of the Islamic masses' struggle is the strongest and most influential means of confronting challenges and ensuring independence from East and West. It has proved to be effective in all fields through confrontation of all the plots and conspiracies that are weaved against our Islamic people and nation.

What then causes gloating and ridiculing is what TIME magazine said in its 25 October issue. The magazine said that Modarresi has contacts with Russian intelligence. This is the charge which is made by the agent regimes and the imperialist circles against the faithful leaderships. In order to unmask this lie, we note that Modarresi wrote books against the "communist theory." His most outstanding book is "Criticism of the Marxist Theory" and "No to Marxism ... no to Capitalism...Yes to Islam."

Let us discuss the alleged plot where fabricating this drama is not the last episode in the series of conspiracies and lies which the Al Khalifah rulers weave against the faithful in order to oppress the revolution of the Muslim people. This regime is not satisfied with this aggression and injustice. The authorities of Al Khalifah have recently perpetrated other sectarian plots such as the decision to ban issuing birth certificates to any Bahraini baby whose father has no passport. This is another criminal act against the suppressed masses.

This is why the Islamic world, the Islamic movements and oppressed masses are called upon 1 year after Bahrain's incidents and the imprisonment of the 73 struggling believers to express solidarity [with them], to explain the issue of the faithful Bahraini people [to the world], and work seriously to touch the international conscience through all possible ways and means to ensure the salvation of these young people who believe in their God and who have no sin except that they said: "God is our Lord."

Heavy responsibility lies on all of us. We begin to ask: What is the justification for Al Khalifah's regime to commit such cowardly acts of continued torture a few months after their illegal trial and the issuance of the final sentences against them? Has not the case ended with the following sentences: Life imprisonment for 3 strugglers; 15 years' imprisonment for 60 others and 7 years' imprisonment for the remaining 10?

We believe that the case has not ended. Al Khalifah and all despots do not fight certain peoples so that the case will end with their death or imprisonment. War and tyranny by all pharoahs continue. This is why the cause begins anew every day.

Perhaps the security agreement, conclusion of more agreements by the reactionary Gulf regimes, daily statements and playing the tune of "security and stability" in the region like the previous symphony is proof of what we are saying: The cause will not end so long as masses possess the trump represented in the principles which they fight for and so long as they have the will that determines their revolution when they want it.

For solidarity with the Muslim Bahraini people and support for their just cause.

"He who hears a Muslim calling: 'O Muslims, come along,' and does not respond is not a Muslim." [Koranic verse]

CSO: 4600/173

MINISTER STATES VIEWS ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES

Tehran IRAN PRESS DIGEST in English Dec 82 pp 15-17

[Interview with Minister of Heavy Industries Behzad Nabavi]

[Text] In an interview with Kayhan Newspaper, Eng. Behzad Nabavi, Minister of Heavy Industries expressed his views on the scope of activities by the private sector, Labour Bill, Islamic Revolution Mojahedeen Organisation, the Tudeh Party and Fedayeen Group (Majority Branch), etc. Following are excerpts:

He was asked to comment on the history and activities of the Islamic Revolution Mojahedeen Organisation as a member of this organisation since many contradicting reports have been heard about it and even at times different announcements with different signatures have been issued. Mr. Nabavi said in response that he was sorry and disappointed to hear of these rumours. In the past, he said, the Liberals, the Mojahedeens, Bani-Sadr and Leftists and Finally anti-Revolutionists of the left and right were the enemies of the Organisation, but now a days we hear of some untrue statements by some of the devoted Moslem brothers in this regard, but we consider all this as a result of misinformation. Mr. Nabavi said that the Organisation, like so many other revolutionary establishments have been a target of Injustice and this was because the devoted members were doing their duties without going after any propaganda or publicity. He said that for the Organisation to be a target of severe attacks by its enemies was only natural since it had dealt them devastating blows along with the people of "Hezb-Ollah" (people claimed to be wholeheartedly in favour of the Islamic Revolution) and other genuine Moslem forces. This naturally has created great anger and that is why the Organisation has been called names such as "super Reactionary Organisation" or "Phal-lange" or "Mojahedeen after the Islamic Revolution" and the like.

He said that everybody remembers how Bani Sadr attacked the organisation in a rally on 17th of Shahrivar in the year 1359. How he accused the organisation of contemplating to stage a "Coup" and also his denunciation of the 10-point declaration issued by the Organisation several days before. In those days there was fear of him sending some of his hired thugs to attack the headquarters of the Organisation on Shohada Square. How the Liberals and especially the "Freedom Movement" displayed their animosity towards the Organisation for disclosing their true faces and the eventual downfall of the Provisional Government.

Mr. Nabavi said that during the days after the death of Ayatollah Taleghani when all of the opposing elements including the rights and lefts were taking advantage of the opportunity and were demanded dissolution of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards, the Committees, and other revolutionary organisations, and when the devoted people were caught off-guard, the Islamic Revolution Mojahedeen Organisation arranged a huge mass rally and caused all their plans to meet with defeat. Their plan was that in the absence of Ayatollah Taleghani the armies of the "Mojahedeen Khalgh" and the "Moslem People's Republic Party" to replace the Revolutionary Guards and the Committees.

All in all the defeat of this conspiracy caused great anger by America and when in that mass rally the Organisation in its resolutions for the first time after Imam "who had earlier accused the Provisional Government of Incompetency" attacked the government for its pro-nationalism policies and cooperation with the Liberals, it expected a reaction by them.

He said that the attitude of the Organisation towards Bani Sadr in revealing the true face of the united anti-revolution front (comprising of the Mojahedeen, Bani Sadr and the Liberals) and also Tabas Incidents is well remembered by everyone. Mr. Nabavi said that the Organisation did not expect anything but hostility from Bani Sadr who even claimed that he was going to be assassinated. But, Mr. Nabavi added, what is painful is opposition by some misinformed friends and repetition of the same accusations that were made by the newspapers "Mizan" and "Islamic Revolution" in the past. Mr. Nabavi then said that he could mention some of the works done by the Organisation since its foundation. He said what even the Organisation has done was only to please God. Among the many works done by the Organisation, he said, is its role in forming the Committees "the Central Committee", the formation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard, in fighting the "Foreign" group called "Forghan", in establishing organisation of Moslem Kurds, in defeating the American planned "Coup" at "Nojeh" and in fighting armed activities of the Mojahedeen. Mr. Nabavi said that whatever the Organisation has done have been with the cooperation of legitimate government organisation and no popularity or fame has been sought. He said that with such a record it is a pity to hear that the Organisation believed from the beginning the right of "VeLayat-e-Faghih" and has supported it all along and was perhaps one of the first Organisations that expressed this belief in its statute.

Another thing that has been a subject of rumours is that the Organisation is accused of being "half-hidden and half-open". The Organisation, because of the nature of its activities could not reveal its plans during the first year of the Revolution under the existing conditions. Of course, he said being "half-hidden" did not mean that nobody knew about the Organisation, its programs, its councils and its members. All of the responsible authorities in the country knew about the Organisation and Imam was informed and did not express any objection. He said that at present since the Organisation does not pursue its activities in the fields of security, intelligence and military any more, it is out in the open completely. He said that in the past if he were asked whether he was a member of the Organisation he would try to evade the question but now he declares that he is a member. Mr. Nabavi was then asked to explain everything he knew about political groups such as

"Maysamists" Fedayeen (the majority) and Tudeh Party. In response to this question Mr. Nabavi said that he considered all these groups against the Islamic Republic and Islamic rule based on "Valayat-e-Faghih". He said that considering his knowledge about these groups, although their position at the present is to support the Islamic Republic their nature is such that they cannot support principles of Islamic Republic and Islamic rule in the long run. He said that we know about their past and it is possible that some of them might claim that they have abandoned their past views. In that case they must declare that formally and then be judged again. As for the "People's Mojahedeen Movement" which has branched out of the "Mojahedeens" Mr. Nabavi said that he had contacts with them while in prison. They believed that people like Rajavi and Khlabani were not the true followers of Hanif Nejad and other founders of the movement. They did not reject "Dialectic" in actuality accepted it. Until the very end when the prisons were overtaken by the people their main line of thought was cooperation with the Marxists. After the Revolution nothing new was offered by them in their ideology. He said that they differ in their opposition to the Islamic Republic from the Mojahedeens. The Mojahedeens believe in armed resistance whereas the People's Mojahedeen Movement prefer political resistance based on their understanding of the Islamic Republic.

As for the Tudeh Party and the Fedayeen Group (the majority) Mr. Nabavi said that the nature of both are known. Both are Marxists and as such they cannot, at the final analysis, be supporters of the Islamic Republic. We are saying that we are taking the society where God's orders and rules will be supreme. Naturally, these two groups with their Marxist beliefs cannot go along with the Islamic Republic in the long run. Their confrontation is political and they consider this regime as a "petty Bourgeoisie" and do not regard an Islamic Government as an ideal government. Based on their special analysis they believe in a political move and not armed activities. They do not believe in armed activities, not for the sake of Islam or Islamic Government but regard it damaging to the so-called "Communist and Marxist" Movements. Mr. Nabavi said that these groups will eventually oppose the Islamic Republic but this does not mean that this should be hastened. And in regards to the "Majority Group" it is true that they opposed the Shah's regime in the past, but we do not believe that anybody who opposed Shah is rightful and has spirituality. If Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin fought Hitler and British or Russian Colonists are engaged in disagreement with America it does not mean they are in the right. We have to see what ideology has prompted this opposition. Anybody who has fought a corrupt and despotic regime for the purpose or replacing it by another regime (such as a Marxist regime) is not accepted. The background of the Tudeh Party and its shameful past is known to everybody. Their attitude towards the "Jungle Movement", Azerbaijan's Separation, the Oil Nationalisation Movement, or the so-called White Revolution which they supported in the "Radio Payk Iran" (Iran's Radio Message) are known to the people and there is no need to go into details in this interview.

AYATOLLAH KANI EXPLAINS OBJECTIONS TO FOREIGN TRADE BILL

Tehran IRAN PRESS DIGEST in English 7 Dec 82 pp 12-17

[Text] In a statement released Nov., 26., Ayatollah Kani, a member of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran outlined the reasons for the rejection of the Bill for the nationalization of foreign trade ratified in the Majlis. In the statement, Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani said the Council of Guardians rejected the bill for it did not deem it correct that all the country's exports and imports should be monopolized by the government. He said the government's handling of some 200,000 kinds of imports was not feasible nor possible. He declared that two points considered by the Council, in rejecting the foreign trade nationalization bill were:

Article 4 of the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran which reads: All civil, penal, financial, economic, administrative, cultural, military, political, etc. Laws and regulations regarding natural resources should be based upon Islamic precepts." This article absolutely and universally governs all other articles of the--constitution as well as other rules and regulations to be decided upon at the discretion of the jurists of the Council of Guardians.

And Article 72 of the constitution which reads that the Majlis cannot ratify laws which contradict Islamic laws or the laws of the constitution." Since the government and the Majlis, added Ayatollah Kani, used Article 44 which said the public sector was comprised of foreign trade as well as many other things thus the bill was ratified,. However, continued Mahdavi Kani, according to the bill, everyone is required to sell whatever he wants to export, to the government so that the latter could determine the price for it. Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani said this very point is indeed contradictory to Islam because it aims at limiting the people's ownership which has been acquired--through legal ways. He said the government could never say to someone for example that: 'This raisin which you have produced yourself, should be sold to the government, and furthermore is solely for export' for it was against the laws of Islam. We said the Council of Guardians believed that the government had to have supervision over all areas and if necessary make sure these areas conform to the constitution while considering the benefits of the people. He said if the government was to take control of foreign trade that meant no private ownership [word illegible] would be respected. Quoting Article 44 of the constitution which reads "Ownership in all public, private and cooperative

sectors, in so far as they conform to other sections of this article, does not contravene Islamic laws, and helps to advance economic growth and development and would not be injurious to the society will enjoy the full protection of the law in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Details and order of the usage of each is to be determined by law." Ayatollah Kani said the bill which was rejected lacked the afore-mentioned four principles. The government is the representative and protector of the nation's interests rather than the custodian of the nation. Hence, and the concept of state ownership has to take into consideration the people's rights and interests.

Therefore, the Ayatollah added the government cannot by definition be plenipotentiary in terms of ownership. He said that this applied to all areas, for the government had to consider first the people's interests prior to anything else otherwise a great disruption would occur in the affairs of the society, he added.

He stressed once again that the Islamic government was not allowed to monopolize foreign trade without firstly realizing those four conditions. Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani said the Majlis had not considered the rest of the constitutional laws in the said bill. He said the bill aimed at making the government a large center of trade, which itself contravened the constitution for it said that no entity had the right to exercise to the control of the nation's wealth. The bill, added Ayatollah Mahdavi Kani, is presently being studied in one of the Majlis committees, and that in his opinion, a part of the foreign trade was certainly to be government controlled. In another part of his statement, Ayatollah Kani said some counterrevolutionary groups abroad, some of whom were Leftists had launched a propaganda campaign against the Council of Guardians because they had failed to achieve their satanic ends. He said those elements aimed at undermining the country's economy, industry and commerce and planned to create a Communist system in Iran, ignoring the fact that that Iran was an Islamic country with an Islamic nation,. He said the Council of Guardians aimed at enacting the laws of Islam and to insure that the Majlis laws were fully Islamic. The council of Guardians, added Ayatollah Kani, will never succumb to political atmospheres created by the imperialist agencies and their internal and external lackeys. Replying to some people's criticism concerning how a minority of 12 people could oppose a majority of 200 Majlis deputies and rule out their authority and legitimacy. Ayatollah Kani said the *raison d'etre* of the Council of Guardians was precisely checking the laws of the Majlis and announce if these provisions included any points which contravened the laws of Islam or the laws of the constitution. In conclusion, he said the Council of Guardians received the name "Guardian" since it comprised a group of Islamic scholars who aimed at guarding against all un-Islamic entries in the legislature. He also called on all Iranians to either write to the Council or call the council office in case they had questions on the various bills the council was studying..

CSO: 4600/149

EXPANSION OF DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS LAUDED

Tehran IRAN PRESS DIGEST In English 7 Dec 82 p 6

[Text] The past two weeks have been characterised in the era of IRI foreign relations with the shuttles of various political and economic delegations. During these two weeks, important figures and teams from the West, and Socialist & Third World states paid successive visits to Iran, among whom can be mentioned the trips of the New Zealand team headed by its Foreign Minister, Indian team by the Commerce Minister, Pakistani team by the Foreign Minister, as well as those from Yugoslavia, Democratic Korea, Sierra Leone and finally Nicaragua and the Sharawi Arab Democratic Republic. At the same time, delegations from Iran were dispatched to Pakistan, Czechoslovakia and a number of Islamic states.

Observers consider these activities to be hope-inspiring due to two reasons: First, as an index for IRI's activation in foreign relations; and second, an indication of the confidence that other governments have got in IRI. In this connection, Dr. Valayati, the Foreign Minister, told newsmen: "Arrival of different political, economic and commercial delegations in Iran is indicative of the political stability of the Islamic Republic and securing of greater confidence at international level. As you are already aware, despite the war imposed by Iraq upon Iran, we have, during the past 26 months, been able to continue our economic progress, to increase our foreign exchange resources, and to enjoy a very high degree of economic stability. Also, in the light of adoption of correct political postures and expansion of political ties through maintaining an independent stand, we have been able to secure greater confidence among states all over the world, especially the Third World countries. Our ties have improved with such countries that are prepared to have relations with us while keeping away from political and military groupings. We consider these shuttles of various political, economic and commercial teams as an index of increasing political stability of our country.

CSO: 4600/150

BIOGRAPHY OF KHOMEYNI ACTIVIST PUBLISHED

Tehran IRAN PRESS DIGEST in English 7 Dec 82 p 22

[Text] KHAMUSHI, Haj Seyyed Taqi

1937-Tehran.

Candidate of Islamic Republican Party and Militant Clergy Society for Majlis

Religious family. His relations have had a long record of struggle against Shah's regime.

Completed Secondary school in Tehran, and began studying religious sciences. He obtained high standard degree in religious sciences.

1962 participated in the movement under the leadership of Imam Khomeini against Shah's regime. He was active in Islamic societies and published many political leaflets.

He was active in Mo'etalefeh Islami (an Islamic society active against Shah) under leadership of Araghi, Amani and Islami. While active in this society he was arrested several times.

1963 during demonstrations of Khordad 15, he was arrested accused of helping and organizing the movement against Shah and closing Bazar. He was jailed in Ghezel Hesar prison and tortured. After a while he was released and restarted his clandestine political activity and established classes in Arabic and principle of Ideas in Lorzadeh Mosque.

1974 was arrested once again, but released and began his political activity. During this period he exposed Mojahedeen Khalgh Organization as a result of being associated with them in Evin prison/

1977/8 was one of main organizers of the demonstrations. He was also a speaker and an agitator. He was associated with Ayatollah Motahari, Beheshti and Bahonar Rajaie and Hojjatoleslam Khamenei. He was active in Welcoming committee of Imam.

He established Training and Administration Organization of Islamic problems and Islamic Films. He participated in Islamic cultural activities.

CSO: 4600/150

EMIGRE OPPOSITION WEEKLY CRITICIZES GENERAL ARYANA

NC061041 Westgate-on-Sea ENGLAND E'DAM in Persian 24 Dec 82 pp 1, 2, 4

[Excerpts] During the past couple of weeks several Iranian publications kept their readers informed about the successful trip by General Aryana to Germany where he had gone at the invitation of a group of Iranians residing there. These publications also carried the speeches by the general in which, as usual, he started by saying: Help me; assist me; I want taxes from you-- blood tax, gold tax--give me money; send me soldiers; give medical equipment; we need surgeons and a medical cadre. Iran...

Unfortunately the contents of the speech delivered by the general in Frankfurt were very different from the contents of his speech in Munich. We have also heard that General Aryana's remarks in Paris were very different from his speeches in Frankfurt and Munich and we think that his speech on London in the near future will also be completely different from all his other speeches.

In his speech in Paris 1 week after speaking in Frankfurt and Munich, the general did not make any reference to monarchy and to the rule of Reza Pahlavi. We have not forgotten that in the past General Aryana had once described Dr Bakhtiar as a patriot and someone who had assisted them and then how later on, in a revolutionary statement, he denied having any links with Bakhtiar and stated that he had not received even a penny from him.

General Aryana, if we are writing these things today it is because we have no other choice. As you yourself and all patriots and readers of our publication know, we published a large number of articles and items about you and we extended our full support to you. It is because of this that we have to speak truths too. This is because we do not want to be reproached one day. We do not want to reproach ourselves on the day when traitors and toadies will be tried and ask ourselves why we did not say what had to be said because we still believe that we are the ones who unveil certain things that everyone knows, but which no one is willing to talk about. We are doing this with hopes that we will have rendered a service to our compatriots. General Aryana, in our next issue we have a few things to say to you and to several other liberators.

CSO: 4600/173

SHI'ITE LEADER'S OPEN LETTER ON NEW DECREE

GF050542 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Open letter by Ayatollah Mehdi Ruhani to Ayatollah Khomeyni--read by announcer; date not given]

[Excerpts] Your eight-point decree was issued at a time when mutual distrust has divided the people and the government and insistence on continuing a harsh and destructive policy has destroyed the basis of all affairs in the country. The establishment of security and justice were the two main goals of the Iranian people. Unfortunately, following the revolution the reins have been taken over by people without any of the necessary qualifications for running the country. As a result, they reduced the position of the revolution and its popularity to the level of personal revenge and settling of grudges. The inauspicious results of these policies can be seen. Today you have banned spying and reporting on others, illegal entry into houses and shops, falsification of evidence and the confiscation of property. That is to say you have banned all those acts which were, to date, carried out by your own decrees and directions and resulted in calamities and even criminal acts.

The eight-point decree, even though it is an admission of errors, cannot be a means for fundamentally changing the crude methods of the past. Cases can be observed in this same decree which are fundamentally opposed to the Shari'a. Some of these are as follows:

A. The second article of the decree deals with the investigation of the fitness of judges and the removal of decadent and corrupt persons. The question is: On the basis of which principal can an Islamic regime allow decadent, corrupt individuals to be in judicial positions for long periods and govern the life and property of the people and commit any number of crimes and calamities and then have their suitability investigated?

B. Among those who have been appointed to judicial positions by your will and indication and must look into the suitability of the corrupt judges there are individuals whose hands are stained by the blood of innocent women and children. With such a choice, will corruption and decadence be eradicated?

C. Since the establishment of the present government, Shar' magistrates who by your own admission are corrupt and decadent have justified their acts on the basis of the Velayat-e Faqih. Since they consider the Faqih the complete master of the affairs of the country and themselves appointees of that position, they have resorted to committing inhuman acts. They consider the position of the Faqih one that has complete control over life, property, will, belief, honor and prestige of the people. Is it not time to prove the position of the Faqih--which in Koran has been stated as one in charge of enforcing the commands--in order to end such behavior? [as heard]

D. You (?have stated) that no one has the right to enter any premises without the permission of the owner. No doubt of the fact that this is an Islamic principal which must be obeyed. However, we have to see the official interpretation of the word "owner" since the trend in the Islamic Republic is to make accusations such as "corrupt on earth" or "counterrevolutionary" against people thus eliminating their right to ownership and then begin acts of oppression. Such a method which is interpreted as (?intervention in affairs of intrigue) has always opened the way for oppression. Experience shows that the "counterrevolutionary" and "corrupt on earth" labels have no limits or boundaries and have been used, to date, against tens of thousands of people to relieve them of all their belongings or even their lives. Your decree even specifies that counterrevolutionaries and the corrupt on earth are excluded from this decree. So long as this sword of Damocles hangs over society, who can feel secure and not expect to be branded "counterrevolutionary" or "corrupt on earth" at any moment?

[signed] Dr Mehdi Ruhani, leader of Shi'ites in Europe.

CSO: 4600/173

COMMERCE MINISTER DISCUSSES IMPORT, EXPORT SITUATION

LD062034 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] Commerce Minister 'Asgar-Owladi explained some issues involving imports and exports and the distribution of commodities and presented statistics on the growth of the country's nonoil exports in an interview with correspondents today. He said:

Nonoil exports in the months of Shahrivar [23 August-22 September], Mehr [23 September-22 October] and Aban [23 October-21 November] of this year increased by 60 percent, 12 percent and 15 percent respectively in comparison with exports in the same months last year. In Azar [22 November-21 December] of this year more than 60 loads of carpets worth about 500 million rials were exported. He added: Some problems facing nonoil exports have been solved and we are endeavoring to solve the remaining problems, including difficulties regarding the supply of raw materials for the production of carpets.

With regard to imports the commerce minister said: Consumer imports have been reduced to minimum possible level, but for the second half of this year the funds allocated to the country's industry and production have been increased sixfold; regarding commodities needed by people, all the required purchases--even for the first few months of the coming year--have already been made.

He then referred to the difficulties facing imports and said: Apart from the difficulties facing industry, there are other difficulties in the way of ironware and materials. According to the latest figures there are about 700,000 tons of ironware, basic materials, tools and parts in the country's customs and 500,000 tons at ports. God willing, with the efforts of lorry owners these commodities will be transported to various areas throughout the country.

Regarding recent statements about the distribution of iron, butter and glass Mr 'Asgar-Owladi said: Regarding butter, not only has there been no abuse but with a reduction in the cost of butter-packing a considerable amount has been saved in the interest of the national wealth and we have documents in this connection. Regarding the distribution of iron he said: The invoices shown have not been issued by the Commerce Ministry and are forged; judicial

authorities must prosecute the forgers. Regarding issues raised in connection with glass the commerce minister said: We do not reject the possibility of offense here but before issuing the order these issues were not discussed with the Commerce Ministry.

In concluding the interview, regarding the issue of commodity distribution, Mr 'Asgar-Owladi reminded: A bill concerning distribution has been prepared; after final approval the bill on the nationalization of foreign trade will be submitted to the cabinet and the economic council.

CSO: 4600/173

AGRICULTURE MINISTER DETAILS PRODUCTION FIGURES

LD251410 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Dec 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports that the minister of agriculture and rural development [Mohammad Salamati] described in an interview with reporters today the country's agricultural situation during the current year. He said: Production of most crops has increased this year so that 1,178,000 tons of what was purchased from farmers by the month of Azar [22 November-21 December] and it is predicted that by the end of the year [20 March 1983], production of sugar beets will reach 4 million tons, that is an increase of 40 percent compared with last year.

The minister of agriculture added: Rice production is better than last year and so far about 201,000 tons of unginned cotton wool has been delivered to cotton processing mills; this shows a 25-percent increase compared with last year.

Concerning fruit and vegetable production, Agriculture Minister Salamati said: During the current farming year, in addition to supplies delivered to the home market, a considerable quantity of fruit and vegetables has been exported abroad. He went on: The contribution of the agriculture sector to the country's nonoil exports during the current year has been approximately 63 percent, which shows a 40-percent increase compared with the previous year.

The minister of agriculture said: For the development of the agricultural sector and for the purpose of increasing crop yields, agricultural loans and credits have been given to farmers; in addition to other means of production, for example improved seeds, fertilizers, chemicals and pesticides have been placed at the disposal of farmers. The village cooperatives have also distributed the basic and essential commodities needed by farmers and have helped to provide training and technical services. During the current year the village cooperatives will distribute more than 32,000 tractors to farmers across the country, which is about twice the number distributed last year.

In conclusion, referring to the fact that agriculture has become an axis of the country's economy, the minister of agriculture said: In order to utilize all the possibilities and endowments of the agricultural sector, 5-year and a 10-year agricultural plans for the country have been prepared and will be submitted to the cabinet and the Majlis soon.

CSO: 4600/173

BRIEFS

INSTRUCTIONS TO ENTER IRAQ--Tehran, 27 Dec (IRNA)--The Islamic al-Dawah Party appealed to Imam Khomeyni to instruct the Islamic forces of Iran to enter the Iraqi territory for the rescue of the Iraqi Muslims who are facing the worst type of repression under the regime of Saddam. The appeal was made to the leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran through a telegram. The Islamic al-Dawah Party listed a number of repressions and crimes being carried out by the Saddam regime. It said the Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries are being faced worst type of torture and pointed out that they are being executed in a very brutal manner. [sentence as received] The telegram to the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran said in most of the cases the dead bodies of the Muslim revolutionaries are buried and their relatives are just given a death certificate. The Islamic al-Dawah Party appealed to the imam to issue instructions to the Islamic forces to free the Iraqi Muslims from the yoke of the Ba'thist regime. The telegram said the Iraqi Muslim combatants [are] awaiting the orders of the imam. [Text] [LD271118 Tehran IRNA in English 0956 GMT 27 Dec 82]

BUDGET, ALLOCATIONS DISCUSSED--Yesterday the economic council had a session under the chairmanship of Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister. According to our reporter, at first some discussions were made concerning the general framework of the budget for the year 62 [beginning 21 March 1983]. Then, in order to control and reduce inflation in the year 62 it was decided that the budget should be drafted on the basis of the principle of increasing government income and economizing in the current expenditure. All proposals concerning this matter will be discussed in the next session and decisions will be reached. Then it was decided to pay 300 million rials of loan from note 3 of the budget law of the year 61 [year ending 20 March 1983] to the road construction and safety company to expand the constructive work of that company. Three hundred million rials were allocated for starting construction on 1,000 village schools, which had been approved by the cabinet on the anniversary of the martyrdom of two valuable teachers of the Islamic revolution, martyr Raja'i and martyr Dr Bahonar. Also, it was decided that the budget for this project could be increased by 1 million rials before the end of the current year. In this session the payment of 18 million rials the ports and shipping organization for the purchase of [word indistinct] and spare parts was approved. [Text] [LD282338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Dec 82]

MULLAH POWER STRUGGLE--The power struggle among the various factions of the mullahs' regime continues. Mullahs in various groups are busy getting rid of the elements of opposition mullah groups by using Khomeyni's 8-point degree as the medium. There is a possibility that the illegal regime of Tehran will shortly change. According to a report by a clandestine radio, Sadeq Tabataba'i will be Khomeyni's future prime minister. The clandestine Voice of Iran radio which broadcasts nightly in the period 2130-2230 on shortwave 31 and 19 meterbands, quoting its correspondents, has reported that informed circles in Tehran cite a strong rumor concerning the imminent selection of Sadeq Tabataba'i as the prime minister of Khomeyni's regime. [Text] [GF281746 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 28 Dec 82]

SUNNI STUDENTS--Grand Ayatollah Montazeri has met in the holy city of Qom with groups of Sunni students of religious studies from the provinces of western Azarbayjan and Kordestan. During the meeting, Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized the need for unity and cohesion among Islamic sects against Islam's enemies. He said: Leaders of some Islamic countries, who are fighting us instead of fighting the Zionist entity and Islam's enemies, are not Muslims but agents who sold themselves out. Referring to the crimes committed by the United States and the Zionist entity in Palestine and Lebanon and the crimes committed by the Soviets in Afghanistan, Ayatollah Montazeri affirmed the need for Muslims to move away from the superpowers. These superpowers have united to swallow the Third World, he said. [Text] [GF011050 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 1 Jan 83]

SOVIET PROTEST--Tehran, 1 Jan (IRNA)--Foreign Affairs Ministry in a statement issued here on Saturday, replied to a letter of the Soviet Union Foreign Ministry in connection with a demonstration held by Afghan refugees in front of the Soviet Embassy here on the third anniversary of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, on December 27. In the statement referring to status of Afghans in the past three years, said that it was obvious that the Iranian people were sympathetic towards Afghan people and were conscious of grief and expectations of Afghan refugees. It was on the basis of this sympathy that a request for a peaceful march by Afghan refugees was not objected, and during the march security officers of the Islamic Republic did their best to control the crowd, greatness of which could not have been anticipated. The statement concluded by hoping that the presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan which is the cause of wrath of Afghan people both inside and outside of Afghanistan, would end as soon as possible. [Text] [GF011714 Tehran IRNA in English 1641 GMT 1 Jan 83]

GUIDELINES GIVEN--Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning received Hojjat ol-Eslam Val-Moslemin Seyyed Ja'far Karimi, president of the court responsible for trying judges and public prosecutors of the Islamic revolution courts and public prosecutors' offices. While providing him with the necessary guidelines, the imam of the Islamic nation graciously said: If a person who you were about to try was one of your closest relatives or friends, you should deal with him seriously, carry out the commandment of God, and not listen to anyone else. On the other hand, if he was a person very unknown to you or even one of your enemies yet innocent, you should set him free immediately. Of course, we know this is how you would act. [Text] [LD011110 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Jan 83]

CONSTRUCTION PLANS--Esfahan, 1 Jan (IRNA)--Energy Minister Hasan Ghafuri-fard today said his ministry will construct electric power plants with a total capacity of 10,000 megawatts in the country in the next ten years. Speaking prior to his departure from here, Ghafuri-fard said in the first five-year plan, plants with a capacity of 1,000 megawatts of power will be built in Shiraz, southern Iran, western Iran, northern Gilan Province, and northwestern province of Azarbaijan, while 600 megawatt plant in Neyshabur north eastern province of Khorasan, 100 megawatt plant in Gonabad, Khorasan, and 75 megawatt plant in Zahedan, southeastern Baluchestan Va Sistan Province will be constructed. In the Second Five-Year Plan, continued the minister of energy, plants with a capacity of 1,000 megawatt will be built in western Iran, Najafabad, the central province, Sirjan, south of Iran, and a 600 megawatt plant in Shirvan, Khorasan. He said in the five-year plan some 80 substations of 400 and 230 kilowatts will be built by the Iranian technicians, thus saving some one billion dollars in foreign exchange for the Islamic Republic of Iran, the money which otherwise would have gone to foreign workers. The minister also said that some 200 substations of 63 kilowatts will be built in Iran with a cost of half the price which was formerly given to foreign workers. [Text] [GF011652 Tehran IRNA in English 1551 GMT 1 Jan 83]

ECONOMIC PROJECTS--The Oil Ministry under secretary for petrochemical affairs, in an interview with foreign and domestic reporters, has described Iran's 5-year plan to finish incomplete projects, erect new petrochemical plants and produce chemical fertilizers. He said: Over the next 5 years we will undertake 20 projects at a total cost of 300 billion rials. Half of that sum will be spent on current projects and the remaining on new projects. Regarding the incomplete Shiraz project, he said: It is a \$1 billion project, the management of which has been assigned to a British company with 300 experts. Its operations had been assigned to 13 other foreign contractors, but are now under the control of Iranian experts. The project will be operational by the end of next year. Regarding the Iran-Japan petrochemical project, work on which had been started by a Japanese contractor, he said: After 6 days of talks with Japanese companies we concluded that the differences of opinion between the two partners should be separated from the implementation of the project and that preparations for the restart of construction work should be made over a period of 6 months. At the same time, talks should continue on the financial aspects of the partnership. On the basis of this agreement, if the Japanese contractor does not come forward to continue the project, the Iran-Japan joint stock petrochemical company will invite other contractors to complete it. [Text] [LD031936 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 Jan 83]

GDR ENVOY--The GDR ambassador to Tehran tonight met and had talks with Mr Hasemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. The current relations between the two countries were discussed during the meeting and the GDR ambassador handed him a message of invitation from the president of the People's Chamber of the GDR for a visit by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the GDR. The invitation was accepted by the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. [Text] [LD042138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 4 Jan 83]

RELATIONS WITH ITALY--Tehran--The Iranian Government is willing to step up economic and trading relations with Italy, inasmuch as our country "has not adopted a hostile stance toward the Islamic Republic." This was said in an interview to ANSA by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad Azizi, who also mentioned an invitation to visit Tehran extended to Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo. This reflects Iran's desire to expand relations with Italy, already at a good level from the economic and trading viewpoints. Of the foreign enterprises still in Iran, Italy's are in fact the most active, involved in fulfilling major contracts. [Text] [PM051617 Venice L'UNITA in Italian 21 Dec 82 p 7]

REFINERIES INCREASE PRODUCTION--The efforts of the workers at the Esfahan refineries have resulted in a 50-percent increase in production in one refinery and a 34-percent increase in the other refinery's output. Hence, the total production has increased from 200,000 barrels per day to 285,000 barrels per day. [GF241349 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 19 Dec 82 GF]

NEW GUBERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS--The Interior Ministry has announced the following appointments: 'Abdorrezza Jamali as governor of Golpayegan, Mohammad Ja'far Nazarizadeh as the governor of Ghoncheh, Seyyed Morteza Tabataba'i as chief of the governorate of Fereydunshahr and Mus'ud Forqani as district governor of (Pur-o Biabanak). [GF241348 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 20 Dec 82 GF]

IRANIAN ENVOY APPOINTED--Tehran, 27 Dec (IRNA)--On December 9, 1982 Madagascar and the Islamic Republic of Iran official commenced diplomatic relations at the embassy level. Mehdi Amir Rahmani [spelling as received] was appointed as the first Iranian charge d'affaires to Madagascar and was introduced to the foreign minister of Madagascar. The Iranian Embassy is located in Antananarivo, capital of Madagascar. [LD280404 Tehran IRNA in English 2003 GMT 27 Dec 82 LD]

HYPOCRITES EXECUTED, SENTENCED--On the verdict of Urumiyeh Islamic Revolution Court, 'Omar Khazri, son of Esma'il, was sentenced to death and executed on 13 November for being a member of the defunct and mercenary democratic party, armed cooperation with elements of this party, possession and transport of arms, participation in armed clashes, armed uprising against the Islamic Republic regime and terrorizing the people of Kordestan. Three members of the hypocrite organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were sentenced to death and executed in Fuman on December 1982. [as printed] The following people were sentenced to jail terms ranging from 1 to 15 years in Borujerd for supporting the hypocrite organization and Feda'iyān-e Khalq--majority and minority branches: Sheyda Taheri, Afshin Moqaddasi, Mojtaba Amiri, Hamid Amini, Hoseyn Mohammadian, Reza (Tohmatannezhad), Sa'id Pishdad, Hojjatollah (Puryai), Sa'id Mehr'Alizadeh, Mohammad Siasi, Giti Amini, Mohammad (Humuleh), Mojtaba Musavi, Mas'ud (Khambushi), Mohammad Sh'aban, and Mohammad 'Alimanesh. [GF231339 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 9 Dec 92 p 13 GF]

BASE AT BUSHEHR--Bushehr, 8 Jan (IRNA)--Necessary measures for forming of joint units of Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and navy were studied on Friday at a meeting between the IRGC Commander Mohsen Reza'i, and the naval forces Commander Bahram Afzali. The two visited Bushehr port facilities to explore the possibilities for joint cooperation. The joint base of the IRGC-Navy will be named [words indistinct] station and will guard the waters of the Persian Gulf. [Text] [LD081120 Tehran IRNA in English 0926 GMT 8 Jan 83]

MALAGASY FOREIGN MINISTER VISIT--The Malagasy foreign minister left Tehran this afternoon at the conclusion of a 4-day visit. During his visit to Iran, he met and discussed with officials of our country regional issues, international developments and ways and means of expanding bilateral ties. [Excerpt] [LD091858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 Jan 83]

AMBASSADOR TO UAE CREDENTIALS--Iranian Ambassador to the UAE Mahmud Sadat Madar-shahi today presented his credentials in Abu Dhabi to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan. During the meeting, Madar-shahi, who is the first ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UAE, expressed hope that bilateral relations will develop more than ever. [Text] [GF111824 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 11 Jan 83]

NEW UN ENVOY--Mr (Kari Shan Kopalsing), the new representative of the United Nations Organisation in Tehran, today went to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and presented his credentials to Mr Velayati, the foreign affairs minister of our country. In this meeting the new UN representative hoped that in his new post he would be able to carry out his duty, which is creating a proper contact between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the UN. [Excerpt] [LD070550 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 6 Jan 83]

CSO: 4600/181

'STATESMAN' COMMENTS ON ZIA'S U.S. VISIT

BK221551 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 15 Dec 82 p 8

[Editorial: "Back in Partnership"]

[Text] In spite of some awkward moments at Washington's National Press Club, and also possibly during his closed door session with the Senate Foreign Relations and House foreign Affairs Committees, General Ziaul Haq seems to have confirmed Pakistan's old alliance with the USA with a confidence that many professional politicians would envy. On the whole, he was able to say what his hosts most wanted to hear, disposing of inconvenient matters like civil rights and democracy with vague platitudes that President Reagan's advisers are not inclined to examine too closely. No less skillful was the dexterity with which he managed to turn restrained criticism of his nuclear ambitions into an accusation against India for not apparently responding to Pakistani suggestions of joint inspection facilities and a nuclear weapons free zone in South Asia. The comparison that this argument implied--perhaps inevitably against the background of Mrs Gandhi's highly publicized visit about four months earlier--did not, however, strengthen General Zia's advice to Americans not to "juxtapose" the two countries in their policy calculations. For the Pakistani leader knows only too well that the special favours shown to him flow directly from an overall assessment that understandably does not rely on India to further the USA's South Asian objectives.

Nor did General Zia scruple to play on this perception by emphasizing that while he fully endorses American aims, India is reluctant even to use its influence with Moscow to persuade the Soviet Union to withdraw from Afghanistan. This misleading interpretation of New Delhi's attitude was obviously intended to underline the contrast and to stress his superior claim to U.S. sympathy and support. The tactic may even have been partly responsible for the resolution of differences over electronic equipment for the 40 F-16 aircraft promised under President Reagan's \$3.2 billion aid package. But the thinking revealed by such comments does not bode well for hopes of a sub-continental rapprochement and might even be thought to lend unhappy significance to the general's warning to Americans not to "over-project" his dramatized efforts to normalize ties with India.

The visit may also cast a shadow on what appeared to be the start of a Pakistani dialogue with the Soviet Union. For while in the USA General Zia chose to abandon his earlier optimistic analysis of Moscow's intentions for a cold war thesis reviving fears of Soviet designs on Iran and Baluchistan and suggesting not only that Moscow is still seeking an opening to the Arabian Sea but also that Islamic revivalism threatens the stability of the Soviet Central Asian Republics. The glibness with which he produced this elaborate thesis--of which he had given no hint after his recent meeting with Mr Andropov--can only be seen as a measure of his anxiety to earn President Reagan's approval. It may not have occurred to the Pakistani leader that commitment to this extent can only restrict his scope for manoeuvre in Asian affairs; but possibly, he has revised his priorities and, though still formally a member of the non-aligned movement, does not now attach as much importance to relations with India, Afghanistan or the Soviet Union. In the circumstances, it may not be too cynical to conclude that General Zia might have taken a different view of U.S. bases if the proposed South-West Asia Central Command which will replace the rapid development force had required such a foothold in Pakistan.

CSO: 4200/270

ZIA SPEAKS ON WORLD, DOMESTIC ISSUES

BK041000 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1322 GMT 2 Jan 83

[2 January address to the nation by Pakistan President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq--live; place not given]

[Excerpts] Dear ladies and gentlemen: Peace be upon you. I have held a news conference almost every time I have returned home after concluding visits abroad. However, I failed to avail myself of this auspicious opportunity after my visits to the United States and Canada. That is why I am present before you today to apprise you of my impressions about my visits abroad and to share with you my views on certain issues. I am aware that major reports about these visits have been reaching you through the mass media, which deserve kudos for this. But there are certain things and impressions I wish to present before you personally so we can move unitedly toward our goal.

As you all know, I have undertaken many important visits abroad during the past few months. First, I visited China, the DPRK, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. I also undertook brief but significant visits to Delhi and Moscow. And as you know, I returned home a few days ago from the United States and Canada. For the enthusiastic welcome I was accorded on my return from the United States and Canada and the way the large number of countrymen, both within and outside the country, expressed congratulations and good will through letters and telegrams, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all Pakistani people, including the citizens of Rawalpini and Islamabad.

First, let me tell you about my visits to the Far East and Southeast Asia. All the countries I visited in these regions have, as you are aware, different forms of government. But they have one thing in common. In all these countries, there are no movements launched on the pretext of the form of government; there is no disruption in the normal business of life; there are no acts of sabotage; and there is no [words indistinct] politics ruining the country. In my opinion, the prosperity of nations lies not in a particular form of government but in certain other elements, which I shall mention. In my opinion, the form of government is relatively of secondary importance. It is selected by every country in accordance with its conditions and necessities. We are also preparing a form of government for Pakistan in accordance with its situation and necessities. And as soon as its framework is ready, God willing, I shall myself present it

before the people. But here, I must mention that our goal is that our form of government should be based on Islamic values and be in complete conformity with Islamic principles.

The secret of the commendable progress made by China, the DPRK, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand or Singapore is their patriotism, collective discipline and continuous labor. The secret of their progress lies in benefiting from things provided by God and in utilizing national resources for collective advantage. There the people work heart and soul. They do not stage strikes on the pretext of the form of government. There the people toil day and night for their country and their nation. They do not waste their time launching agitations. They have only one mission before them and that is how to make their country stronger and prosperous with their own individual contributions. I think we can learn a lot from these friendly countries. It should be the principles of every person and nation to adopt whatever good things it gets from whatever source. In this respect, we can learn from these friendly countries their ways of development. We can acquire their technology, and we can consider the new methods of augmenting agricultural production from whatever sources we get. However, the most valuable lesson we can learn from them is national consciousness, patriotism and collective discipline, which is, above all, everything. My friends, I am presenting this example so it may have some impact on us. Otherwise, we are not lacking in anything. Do we not have the advice and instructions of the Qaid-i-azam [Mohammad Ali Jinnah] or the thoughts and sayings of Alluma Iqbal or do we not possess the soul-invigorating ideals of faith, unity and organization? Yet, we are seriously feeling the lack of national consciousness, faith, unity and collective discipline. Therefore, we should pay attention to this.

While speaking on my foreign visits, I would like to make special mention of China, India and the USSR. Because these three nations are neighboring countries, I have said time and again that China is our sincere and trusted friend. We have longstanding relations with her which are getting stronger by the passage of time. During my visit, I had the opportunity to meet the veteran leaders of China. As were my earlier visits, this visit was very pleasant, encouraging and useful. The Chinese leadership has taken, as usual, keen interest in the security and welfare of Pakistan and assured us of continued cooperation to help Pakistan stand on its own feet. We view our friendship with China with due gratitude and respect and thank her for her assistance and cooperation.

After my visit to China, I stopped in Delhi for a few hours on my way to Southeast Asia. There I had a meeting with the Indian Prime Minister Madam Indira Gandhi. Although this meeting was short in respect of time, it was important in essence. During this meeting, we discussed bilateral relations and the regional situation. I had stated at that time after the meeting and I am saying it even now that these discussions were very useful and meaningful--useful in the sense that we have paved the way for a new era of bilateral relations between India and Pakistan. They were meaningful in the sense that an agreement was reached to establish a ministerial commission to promote bilateral cooperation. Also, the

agreement was recently initialed. We hope this commission will bring useful results. Pakistan's offer for a nonaggression pact still exists. In this regard, India has also offered a proposal. Preliminary discussions have recently taken place in Delhi on both proposals. We hope that through bilateral negotiations on the basis of equality and by forgetting the bitterness of the past we shall be able to create an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity.

I was still on my visit to Southeast Asia when late president of the Soviet Union Brezhnev passed away. I cut short this visit and arrived in Moscow to attend his funeral ceremony. There I had the opportunity to meet the new Soviet leader Andropov. I paid this visit to offer condolences. I am expressing my heartfelt thanks to Andropov for his courtesy during my visit there. I attach importance to this visit, during which Afghanistan was discussed. During the discussion, I explained Pakistan's viewpoints and he informed me of the Soviet Union's stand. After this meeting, I had the impression, and still have it, that the new Soviet leadership views the Afghanistan problem from a new angle and has refreshed, to some extent, its efforts to resolve it because it is my opinion, and I have fully explained it, that the key to this problem lies in Moscow. The key lies in Moscow. We have said repeatedly that the Afghanistan problem is a political problem and we are striving for a political solution to it. We are deeply interested in furthering the progress made at the Geneva conference. We want to make it productive.

During my recent visit to the United States, I also had a meeting with the UN Secretary General in New York. I told him that Pakistan will fully cooperate with the secretary general's representative for the peaceful settlement of this problem. We hope that the special representative of the UN Secretary General will be successful in finding a solution to this problem. The Soviet Union is our neighboring country. We want to improve our relations with her and hope we will achieve success in this mission. But as you know, we have never compromised on principles.

Ladies and gentlemen, when I left for my visits to the United States and Canada in early December, the basic objectives before us were to explain Pakistan's viewpoints on important regional and international issues; to benefit from the thoughts, insights and [stumbles in pronouncing "analysis"] analysis of the top leadership of the United States and Canada; to promote bilateral relations; and to establish contacts with overseas Pakistanis. I am pleased to inform you that by the grace of God we have been very successful in these objectives. Not only have our expectations been fulfilled but God has blessed us with his favors, which were beyond our expectations. This is the benevolence of God, and for this we are grateful to him.

During my stay in the United States and Canada, I met with every person, organization and institution which can benefit Pakistan. Among these, senior officials of the administration, the U.S. Senate and Congress; important members of the Canadian Parliament; heads of financial institutions of the two countries; representatives of the mass media; and the overseas Pakistanis are worth mentioning. I would like to apprise you of only four or five major issues which were discussed with these people and institutions. Some of the issues are

political and some economic. Let us take the political issues first. Concerning the political issues, the issue of Afghanistan was on top. It had been my impression that although this tragedy took place 3 years ago, its gravity, complications and delicacy are well understood everywhere. By the grace of God, the human conscience is alive. It is moved by atrocities against human beings and sympathizes with oppressed people. Pakistan's efforts for a political solution to the Afghanistan problem were supported and appreciated everywhere. The services rendered by Pakistan in looking after the 2.8 million Afghan refugees on humanitarian grounds were especially appreciated in no uncertain terms. While referring to Afghanistan, I would also like to pay tribute to the courage, spirit and feelings of patriotism of the Afghan refugees.

Besides Afghanistan, the Middle East situation also came up for discussions, and we explained Pakistan's stand on this issue in very clear terms. We told the American authorities that Pakistan was swept by a wave of anger and indignation at the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and that there is deep sympathy for the Palestinian refugees in our country. We also told them that the conditions for the settlement of the Middle East problem were not as conducive before as they are now. Therefore, in order to take advantage of the existing conditions, efforts should be accelerated to find a comprehensive and just solution to the Middle East problem on the basis of self-determination. In this regard, we also emphasized that the key to the solution to this problem was in Washington. The key lies in Washington.

The third regional problem was the Iran-Iraq war. In this context, we expressed our viewpoints and listened to the viewpoints of our hosts. Our effort is that this war should soon come to an end because its continuation was not only causing losses in life and property to Iran and Iraq but because it was also posing a danger to world peace. In this regard, too, we took stock of the situation and made several efforts. As you know, we have the privilege to be a member of the Islamic Ummah Peace Committee. But in this context the key to the solution of this problem is in Tehran and Baghdad. The key lies in Tehran and Baghdad.

Ladies and gentlemen, for a long time, a propaganda campaign against Pakistan's nuclear program has been going on in Western nations under a well planned scheme. We are subjected to every kind of baseless accusation. During this visit, there were many opportunities to discuss this issue. We told the authorities in the U.S. administration, Congress, Senate and Parliament members [as heard] and representatives of the mass media in very clear terms that Pakistan is against proliferation of nuclear arms and that our role in this context is evident. We have been presenting two proposals at the United Nations for the past few years saying that South Asia should be declared a region free from nuclear weapons and that the Indian Ocean should be kept free of nuclear weapons. We have also offered our neighboring country, India, a proposal on inspecting the installations of either nation on a mutual basis. We have voluntarily accepted international safeguards on our Karachi nuclear power station, Kannup. Also, very recently, we agreed to further tighten these safeguards at the request of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and we have been acting in accordance with these safeguards.

The fact is that as a developing country our energy requirements are growing day by day and cannot be met by traditional resources. Pakistan is also fully utilizing its water resources to obtain energy. But in view of growing prices, the energy obtained from oil is three times costlier than nuclear energy. This is beyond our purchasing capacity. It is my belief that darkness alone is not in our fate. If Pakistan is to continue its march along the path of progress and if we are to provide light to every village, city and town, then we have no alternative but to continue our nuclear program and acquire atomic technology for peaceful purposes. This is our economic necessity. This is our right. And on this issue, our whole nation is unanimous in its thinking and voice. It is the responsibility of the developed nations of the world to help all developing nations in acquiring atomic technology for peaceful purposes. The nonproliferation policy on atomic technology and atomic weapons should be applied to all nations on the basis of just principles and without any discrimination. They should move together with the developing nations in their race toward material development. Our stand is that if they can assist us in this context, then we will be grateful to them. Otherwise, we will acquire this technology on our own and without any assistance from them because we possess the raw materials. [words indistinct]. We will acquire nuclear technology by utilizing our raw materials, determination and courage so we can meet our national energy requirements. May God help us. [words indistinct]

Western nations regard themselves to be the great champion of democracy and human rights. They think democracy and human rights should prosper everywhere in accordance with their concept. We told them that we, too, have an ideology which is, according to our belief, a very righteous and healthy ideology. We call it the ideology of Islam. This is a developing, progressive and democratic ideology. No other philosophy of life provides as many guarantees for human rights as Islam. Therefore, we respect human rights according to our religion, our ideology and our conditions and are striving to bring about an Islamic system of government. In this context, I would also like to mention that by the grace of God we have been successful in freely projecting our Islamic viewpoints before them when we have had the opportunity to do so during our visits abroad, especially in the United States and Canada. We are proud of this, and I also feel proud in saying that they have appreciated this. They have viewed Islamic values with respect.

Besides this, charas, opium and other narcotics, as you know, are popular in Western nations. These narcotics are produced in many countries of the world. In this context, too, we told our hosts that we consider narcotics a social scourge and are making possible effort to control them. In this respect, a draft law, which will be made public in the near future, is under consideration by the cabinet.

In addition to this, we have also stopped people from growing opium. Wherever and in whatever laboratories heroin was produced from the opium and charas, when we received information about them, we fully tried to abolish those laboratories and institutions. When such information is received in the future, stringent action will be taken against them. These measures have discouraged this antisocial trade to a great extent. In this context, I would like to say that

our desire to abolish the narcotics trade is not aimed as a favor to anyone. We are trying to abolish it as our religious duty. However, there are many factors involved in it including factors relating to economics, livelihood and even the international sales process.

We, in Pakistan, are striving to eliminate this scourge because its impact is evident in Pakistan, too. Therefore, this is our duty to keep the people of Pakistan away from this scourge. Together with that, it is our duty to stop this kind of trade in Pakistan and to control things leaving Pakistan. Since this is an international problem, Pakistan alone cannot eliminate this scourge. As I told you, this is an international problem and as such requires international efforts to tackle it. To control this, it is imperative that all affected nations, where narcotics are produced or used, should make their laws stringent and award severe punishment to the culprits. This problem involves additional factors which need to be implemented. I hope that these measures will lead to a realistic and comprehensive program for narcotics control which will, God willing, yield encouraging results.

In this context, Pakistan is doing its best and will continue to do so, God willing, because this is our moral, social and religious duty. I pay tribute to the officials like customs, police and especially the administrations of Baluchistan and the Northwest Frontier Province, their police and other workers, for their very efficient work in taking action in this regard during the past few months. And I hope that there will be no slackening in this regard. The customs, police and other officials bear a special duty to continue their struggle in stopping this evil trade. I hope that they will demonstrate better performance in the accomplishment of this task. As far as Pakistan's laws are concerned, we are making them more stringent, because the people who are involved, either directly or indirectly, in this trade should be given such punishments as will be a lesson to others. I hope this says enough about this.

During my visits, almost everywhere, I brought economic issue up for discussion. The U.S. administration has assured us that the agreement on the military sales and economic aid package to Pakistan will be fully implemented. Whatever the process between the U.S. administration and the U.S. Congress is, that is their internal matter. As far as the final agreement with Pakistan is concerned, it will be carried through according to the program already finalized.

Here, I must explain the basic aim of Pakistan's foreign policy. We desire that all countries, not only in this region but also around the world, should live in peace and honor so that their people can march forward on the path of progress. We understand that, in order to live with honor and dignity within our frontiers and to maintain our independence and security, fulfilling our defense requirements is essential. Pakistan is also striving, in accordance with its resources, to meet its defense needs. What are Pakistan's defense needs and what weapons are required to meet them? This is Pakistan's own problem. We do not require anyone's advice in this regard. We neither require anyone's advice nor [word indistinct]. Pakistan has the right to take every measure to meet its defense needs. Because it is my belief and analysis that no

country in such a geographically strategic position as Pakistan can remain oblivious to their defense requirements, it has been the endeavor of the present government to keep peace in mind in all its policies. At the same time, we feel that to preserve peace, the defense aspect cannot be ignored. Pakistan should have a defense capability which can provide the strength to peacefully implement its policies in accordance with its requirements.

In addition to this, you will be pleased to note that Pakistan's economic progress over the past 5 years has not only been recognized but also appreciated everywhere in no uncertain terms. The economists agree that the present government has not only provided stability for the country but also has achieved enviable results in the economic field. I congratulate my countrymen on these encouraging results. But for their support and cooperation, the government could not have accomplished this task. While referring to economic progress, it would not be out of place to say that the major factors for our economic rehabilitation were the grace and mercy of God, the favorable policies of the government and the labor and spirit of sacrifice of the people.

Ladies and gentlemen, during these visits, not only have our objectives been achieved, but, by the grace of God, Pakistan's prestige has been enhanced and it was bestowed with honors while the country achieved overall success in external affairs. It would be an injustice if I did not mention the reasons for this success. The first thing that I would like to acknowledge is the grace of God, such good fortune and our own strength. Second is Pakistan's own position. The reason behind Pakistan's success is its adherence to Islam. I would also like to add that the full cooperation of the countries I visited also contributed to Pakistan's success. In addition to these factors, the gains achieved were due to the grace of God. A lot of efforts have been made in this regard.

Pakistan is an Islamic and nonaligned nation and desires to develop mutual relations with all countries of the world on an individual level keeping in view the bilateral interests. Our friendship is based on principles and our relations with one country will not impinge upon our friendship with another. I believe that my visits during the past 3 months revealed this fact and provided a better understanding.

Ladies and gentlemen, these were the major points and impressions which I intended to convey to you. To sum up, Pakistan's prestige, by the grace of God, has been enhanced outside the country. Efforts should be made to continue this. In fact, the favorable conditions in the country have led to the enhancement of Pakistan's prestige abroad. God might not have done so had there been political chaos, changes in government every day, acts of subversion and the civil war-like situation similar to that in 1977, and Pakistan's president or its delegation would not have been accorded such a welcome. Therefore, the outcome of our recent visits is the logical consequence of the Pakistani people's success in both fronts. I hope that we will continue to enjoy the cooperation of the patriotic and diligent people of Pakistan in the future.

In conclusion, I would like to mention that this is the holy month of Rabiul Awwal. Let us make a pledge during this holy month to make this new year a year for Pakistan's reconstruction and progress and a year of prosperity of the people and regional and world peace. Besides this, we will vow to follow our religion in every aspect of our life, eradicate hunger, poverty and illiteracy from the country, adopt moral values and enhance the prestige of Pakistan. We will work to make it an Islamic democracy of Pakistan and will follow the prophet's teachings and promote his virtues in the true sense of the term.

The subject of my speech today, as I have mentioned to you, is to relate to you my impressions of my foreign visits. God willing, I will soon present a similar detailed survey of Pakistan's internal situation to the nation. Until then, I extend a call to you, as I did earlier, to honestly adopt the way of life prescribed by Islam through this holy month of Rabiul Awwal and to follow and promote the virtues of the prophet.

Long live Pakistan.

h/t.

ISSUE ON FOREIGN DEBT REPUDIATION EXAMINED

GF021341 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 22 Dec 82 p 4

[Editorial: "If the Debt Burden Has To Be Repudiated..."]

[Text] As Pakistan's foreign debt burden increases, repayments become arduous, and negotiating rescheduling of repayments too difficult, the demand for repudiating the foreign debt is rising within the country. Many reasons are advanced in support of such repudiation, as was done at a panel discussion organised by the Pakistan education and research forum in Lahore last week. Most of the aid, it is stressed, had come as loans and the grant element in the aid has been vanishing rapidly. The bulk of the aid is tied as recipient countries have to import the capital goods and other equipment from donor countries whose prices are far above the international prices. The recent loans carry very heavy interest rates, thereby aggravating the debt burden of poor countries like Pakistan.

If the aid is for specific projects, foreign consultants have to be engaged to prepare feasibility reports as well as advise the managements of such projects later at very high fees. Western countries like the U.S. often admit that 80 percent of the aid given often goes back to the donor countries and keeps their agriculture and industry going. That is true specifically in the agricultural sector as much of the good grains and other edible items received by Pakistan were U.S. agricultural surpluses. If the U.S. did not export them as aid, the government would have to give larger subsidies to the growers as compensation and for not growing such crops in the next year.

Economists also admit that Pakistan has not so much to show economically for the 18.9 billion dollars committed as aid until December 31, 1981, of which only 4.4 billion dollars came as grant. Out of the actually disbursed loans and credit of 11.8 billion dollars until last December Pakistan has repaid 2.5 billion, leaving a net debt burden of 9 billion dollars. Out of the total aid committed, only 59 per cent is for projects, while 41 per cent is for food and other commodities and for balance of payments support. Clearly, when a great deal of the aid is used for current consumption, Pakistan's capacity to repay the loans will be small. Whether such non-project aid comes as food, including vegetable oil, industrial raw materials or consumer items, they do not generate in the country new capacity to repay the loans, particularly when its exports are far below 50 per cent of its total imports.

When projects are set up with foreign aid not only does the machinery come from abroad but also much of the raw materials for such industries. Hence 55 per cent of the very large imports of Pakistan are raw materials for industries. And while foreign consultants tend to be associated with such projects at a high cost, the real transfer of technology from the donor countries to the recipients is small. Hence aid which seems an immediate gain to the recipient state, later becomes lasting burden unless they are very careful, innovative and really striving for self-reliance.

Foreign aid brings with it increasing aid-addiction. It develops a psychology of dependence and an initiative socio-cultural pattern. It promotes in the recipient states a tendency to accept what is available instead of only what is really needed by them. Aid means the recipient states send their managers and experts to the donor countries for training and they in turn import the ways of life and values of those countries into the poor countries. Aid also creates overindustrial capacity in the recipient states and their marginal use resulting in very high cost of production and waste of previous fixed assets. The gross under-utilisation of the heavy mechanical complex and the machine tool factory are prime examples of large aid put to small uses. Aid can also promote high living styles among the ruling class and the officials, and among the captains of trade and industry. The example set by them is usually followed by others through a rapid filtering down process.

The demand for repudiation of the loans has been increasing as the net gains to the country from the increasing aid is proving to be small. Because of heavy repayments to be made by Pakistan the net transfer of aid in Pakistan fell from 75 percent in 1974-75 to 35 percent last year. Clearly, out of three rupees received as aid, two rupees go back instantly for debt servicing. Repayment of the loans is becoming difficult also because of the sharp fall in the export prices of the products from low income countries like Pakistan and the protectionist walls rising in the West against products from the developing countries. Meanwhile the aid of the industrial OECD [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development] countries slumped from the 0.35 percent of the gross national product last year from 0.38 percent in the preceding year, while the minimum prescribed by the U.S. is 0.7 percent of the GNP.

But repudiating the aid burden is not easy. Will Pakistan repudiate only Western aid, and not those from communist states and Arab countries? Will the Arabs permit Pakistan to repudiate its commitments when over one million Pakistanis are working in their countries? It may be easy for a country to repudiate the debt burden as long as it does not need more loans. But Pakistan is seeking not only more economic aid but also other forms of support and assistance from powerful countries. It is not enough, if after repudiating the debt burden, Pakistanis become austere. They have to work hard, very hard and produce far more, and quality goods all round. There has to be vast and radical political, economic and social changes of a deep structural kind. Are the rulers and the owning classes prepared for that even if the people are, for good reasons?

USSR-ZIA TALKS SHOW AFGHAN SOLUTION HOPE

BK300032 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 21 Dec 82 p 6

[Editorial: "A Flicker of Hope"]

[Text] For the first time since Soviet troops moved into Kabul three years ago there appears to be some light--just a flicker as yet--at the end of the tunnel. Most countries now seem veering to the wisdom of seeking a political solution. The contact between representatives of Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva earlier this year was a small but sensible step in the right direction. More significant was the meeting last month between the new Soviet leader, Mr Yuriy Andropov, and President Zia in Moscow after Brezhnev's funeral.

The Pakistan president is reported to have found the talks "unexpectedly cordial" and sensed a "new freshness and flexibility" in Moscow's attitude. A later PRAVDA commentary affirmed that the question of Soviet troop withdrawals could be discussed only as part of a general settlement between Kabul and its neighbours. Pakistani sources have been quoted as saying that although Moscow reiterated its insistence on an end to foreign interference in Afghanistan, it had for the first time "turned the linkage into a concrete negotiating condition." This impression is confirmed from what President Zia said subsequently in an interview in the United States: "They (the Soviets) say that, given a certain type of environment, they would withdraw."

Mr Reagan still seeks a prior Soviet military withdrawal. However, the planned visit next month of the UN special envoy, Mr Diego Cordovez to Islamabad, Kabul and Teheran provides an opportunity for movement towards a constructive settlement. The blueprint Mr Cordovez will be carrying with him is said to involve a phased Soviet withdrawal along with reciprocal steps to seal off the Pakistani and Iranian borders with Afghanistan, and measures to repatriate the Afghan refugees. If there is an agreement in principle on the lines of a settlement, it could be built upon at the non-aligned summit next March when President Zia and Mr Karmal too will have opportunity to meet in Delhi.

CSO: 4200/270

RESPECTABLE EXIT FOR USSR URGED

GF311230 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 29 Dec 82 p 3

[Editorial: "Afghanistan--How the Soviet Union Can Save Face"]

[Excerpts] The Hong Kong FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW has published a report that the Soviet Union will call its troops back from Afghanistan within the next few months, so that it does not become the target for castigation and censure for usurping a nonaligned country. At the meeting of the heads of nonaligned states to be held in March 1983 in New Delhi. According to the report, India is well aware of this Soviet plan, but it has deliberately maintained a strict silence on the subject. [as printed]

The planning of such a scheme by the Soviet Union and the silence of its friend, India, on the same is not very surprising, although the Soviet Union has ignored the continuous and international protests and denunciation of its overt and massive military intervention in Afghanistan, this state of affairs is still quite awkward for it and can be a source of embarrassment to its ally, India, at the nonaligned conference. Therefore, both India and the Soviet Union will endeavor to avoid the discussion and concomitant passing of resolutions of disfavor and condemnation at the New Delhi nonaligned conference. But this scheme will not work because the aggressive belligerency of the Soviet Union has always incited the displeasure of the nonaligned nations.

As a superpower, the Soviet Union has more or less rejected international consensus on Afghanistan but this attitude is not based on principles of peace and justice, but on aggressive arrogance and obstinacy. The Soviet Union's policy of "might is right" is anachronistic in this era of internationalism and its desire to forcibly subordinate a small, independent nonaligned Muslim nation while simultaneously professing to be a champion of peace, will not be accepted by the world. This should not only be a cause for concern for the Soviet Union, but also a point to ponder, because the third anniversary of its military usurpation was marked by protest demonstrations for a withdrawal of its troops from Afghanistan, and a demand for a return of its nonaligned status quo.

If the Soviet Union wishes to evade international denunciation, the only righteous and respectable exit for the Soviet Union is as proposed by the UN General Assembly, that is, to cooperate in meaningful and fruitful talks with the UN secretary general's appointed representative for an early withdrawal of its troops. The devastation caused by Soviet military operations in Afghanistan cannot be compensated but if they are halted it may however, stem the tide of increasing indignation and opprobrium of international public opinion, but a token recall of troops will still not appease world conscience.

CSO: 4656/64

PAKISTAN

AFGHANISTAN PLANS FOR BORDER CRITICIZED

GF301148 Karachi JANG in Urdu 24 Dec 82 p 3

[Editorial: "The Aggressive Intentions of the Kabul Government"]

[Text] The official news agency of Czechoslovakia has reported that the Karmal administration will station security forces along its border with Pakistan. The forces assigned to protect the 2,000-mile-long border will include Afghan Army personnel, volunteer soldiers, and revolutionary guards units. Their task will be to prevent the guerrillas trained in Pakistan from entering Afghanistan.

Earlier, PRAVDA, in an editorial, said that the Soviet-backed Afghan Army has the right to enter Pakistani borders in pursuit of the Afghan rebels. PRAVDA also claimed that under international law, the Afghan Army is fully justified in doing so.

According to another report, Babrak Karmal in a Moscow press interview, said that until the Afghan government has completely defeated the Afghan Muslim rebels, the Soviet troops will not be withdrawn from Afghanistan. He called the Afghan Mujahidin, "rebels" and ruled out any kind of talks with them. Karmal said that until the end of war, his government will continue to make use of the Soviet aid and help. He said that the Soviet forces were like a reserve force and will act in the event of large-scale interference in Afghanistan. Karmal also said that until there are guarantees against the imperialist interference in Afghanistan, the Soviet forces shall not be withdrawn.

With these news reports, we must also note that the Soviets have been using chemical weapons against the Afghan Mujahidin and that a large number of women and children have died due to the use of these chemical weapons.

All these reports reveal that the Soviet and Afghan forces are planning a grand attack against the Mujahidin along their borders with Pakistan and that they also intend to enter Pakistani territory in pursuit of the rebels if the occasion warrants. The design also includes plans for entering Pakistani territory.

All these designs and plans have one aim: that is, to force the Afghan people to accept an imposed regime against their national will, a regime whose controls rest in Moscow's hands. The design also includes a plan to force Pakistan to

hold talks with the Karmal administration. That is why PRAVDA hinted that Afghan forces have the right to enter Pakistani territory. The new plan to place soldiers along the 2,000-mile-long border is also calculated to provide a persuading factor.

We want to make clear to the Soviet leadership that with these new moves of the Kabul Administration, the international moves to find a peaceful solution to the Afghan crisis will certainly be affected. If the Soviet Union considers UN efforts useful, it should abstain from implementing its new border plans, which might touch off disturbances along the Pakistani border.

The Soviet Union must also stop the use of chemical weapons and the use of poisonous gas against the Afghan freedom fighters because such tactics cannot end the struggle of the Afghan Mujahidin, and may only further aggravate the situation. Under the UN efforts to solve the Afghan crisis, the Soviets may get the guarantees it is seeking. The UN efforts can bring a government in Afghanistan into power which will represent the Afghan people's will and will be an independent entity, nonaligned, and free. Such a government can have good relations with the Soviet Union and may insist that it will not tolerate interference in Afghanistan "from any quarter."

Now, when these problems can be solved through talks under the United Nations, why is the Karmal government nursing new plans for the borders? These plans will only further aggravate the situation. The new Soviet leadership must make amends for the wrongs of the previous administration, which wrongly approved Soviet military interference in Afghanistan.

However, the signs indicate that the Soviet Union is preparing to commit further blunders in regard to Afghanistan.

CSO: 4656/64

PAKISTAN

FIRST CONSIGNMENT OF F-16'S LEAVES FOR PAKISTAN

GF101430 Karachi DAWN in English 9 Jan 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Fort Worth (Texas), Jan 83 (PPI)--The first six of the F-16s purchased by Pakistan left here today on their long trip to Pakistan where they are expected next week (weather permitting).

Fitted with two external fuel tanks, the aircraft have a ferry range of 2,100 nautical miles. After three or four midair refuellings, they will land at Dhahran in Saudi Arabia and from there flown to their home base at Sargodha by Pakistani pilots.

The remaining 34 planes will be delivered over the next three years, the last in September, 1985.

Our special correspondent Ghani Erabi points out that when the six-year, 3.2 billion dollar aid package was finalised, Islamabad was told that despite cash payment, the delivery would take 42 months to begin because of the manufacturers previous commitments to the U.S. and NATO air forces, and it was only on President Ziaul Haq's insistence and President Reagan's personal intervention that a way was found by delaying deliveries to three NATO countries to let Pakistan have at least six of the new-technology aircraft within a year.

Our correspondent quotes Avionics specialists as saying, the F-16 is a "compact, maneuverable, all-weather, multirole fighter that combines high technology with low cost. Equally important, it incorporates provision to accommodate technological advancements of the future, which prolongs its span of useful life."

Outside NATO, Israel and Egypt, Pakistan is the only country to acquire the versatile F-16. South Korea and Venezuela will be receiving their first planes in 1985.

However, according to expert testimony submitted before U.S. Congress, notwithstanding the exceptionally fine performance of the F-16, Pakistan's acquisition of 40 of the latest jet fighters will not alter the overall balance of power in South Asia. It will enable Pakistan no doubt to fill in the gap created by the grounding of its Korean-vintage F-86's and lend some credibility to its defence-deterrence, but it will not invest it with any offensive capability, which Pakistan does not seek any way.

CSO: 4200/290

PIR PAGARA, MUSLIM LEAGUE ATTACKED

Lahore MASHRIQ in Urdu 31 Oct 82 p 12

[Article by Abdul Karim Abid: "How Long Will Our Leaders Keep Slinging Mud at Each Other?"]

[Excerpt] No country can be run without high quality statesmen and politicians, but unfortunately our country has become devoid of such statesmen and politicians. The head of every political man bows in shame at the sight of the loose statements being made in the name of politics. If we survey the political statements of the last week, we will see that every political leader is slinging mud at every other political leader. Even the leaders within a single party are busy attacking each other. For instance, take the Tahrik-e Istiqlal. On the one side there are Etazaz Husan and Nafis Siddiqi, and on the other side are Mushir Pesh Imam and Miyan Saumard. Not only is there an internal struggle and conflict between them, but the strong men of both sides are openly engaging in a public trial of strength. The MRD was established for the restoration of democracy, but it seems it too is becoming devoted to personality clashes. The NDP's Abid Zubairi Qasim has drawn up battle against the Muslim League's Khwajah Khair-ud Din. Other internal intrigues of one against the other have come out in the open. The deterioration in relations between the Tahrik-e Istiqlal and the MRD is another matter, and now a supporter of the PPP, Akhbar Aman, has himself made headlines in Karachi with the news that the MRD is about to break up and form a new political union from scratch. God knows how long this spectacle of unions being made and broken will go on in this country.

While addressing a reception in Lahore, Pir Pagara said Maulana Maudoodi had never accepted the existence of Pakistan so the question did not even arise as to whether the Jamaat-e Islami supported Pakistan. This organization is a black cat which looks at Pakistan with the same ill intentions as a black cat looks at a young bird. Pir Pagara said the Jamaat-e Islami is nothing at all. It is true that the Jamaat-e Islami is a very limited organization, but Pir Pagara should also take note that although the public support for the Jamaat-e Islami is limited, it is still there, while the public support for the Muslim League is not just limited, it is nonexistent. Pir Pagara's criticism of the Jamaat-e Islami will neither win a place for the Muslim League with the public nor produce an atmosphere favorable for a round table conference. The Jamaat-ul Ulema-e Pakistan and the Muslim League have taken

up the gauntlet. If the political leaders cannot create an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation by means of their speeches then at least they could remain silent and present their programs in a positive manner without humiliating and insulting each other. Why is it that they waste their energy in slinging mud at each other?

Pir Pagara complains that religious parties have become powerful in Pakistani politics, and religious parties have become political parties, which is not a good thing. That is why Pir Pagara has said that there are two and a half political parties in this country, that is, the People's Party, the Muslim League, and the NDP. The Jamaat-ul Ulema-e Islam, Jamaat-ul Ulema-e Pakistan, and the Jamaat-e Islam are left. These are religious institutions, not political parties. Pir Pagara may be right, but he should consider how it happened that the religious parties gained strength. If the Muslim League were truly a political party and fulfilled its political role, then how would there be any room for the Jamaat-ul Ulema-e Pakistan, the Jamaat-ul Ulema-e Islam and the Jamaat-e Islam? To tell the truth, these parties have emerged due to the incapacity of the Muslim League. If the Muslim League were at all capable, these parties could not have become influential in politics. The Muslim League provided for its own death, and even worse, when the Muslim League committed suicide and died an unlawful death, it left no legitimate offspring. What offspring there were, were illegitimate, like the Republican Party, the Awami League, etc. And what was even worse was that people dishonored the corpse and did not let it be buried, but kept carrying it around with them. It spread such a stench that God save us! Under these circumstances if people held their noses when they smelled the stench of the League's corpse and ran for refuge to the laps of the religious parties, who was to blame? The gentlemen of the Muslim League could neither maintain their own party nor allow other parties to function. They intruded into them and destroyed them too. Communism was advancing into the political vacuum created because of the Muslim League's incapacities. It was in reaction to this that the religious parties came forward and gained a position in politics. Now if the Muslim League wants some national liberal parties to come forward in place of the religious parties in politics, if Pir Pagara will forgive me, he must first close the door of politics and political parties to people who represent the feudal system and give a prominent place in the political platform to representatives of the new middle class. He must bring forward a political leadership which will be completely different from that of the class of religious leaders, descendants of lords, large landholders and former princes. It is true that the strength of the religious parties is not a good sign. But Pir Pagara should understand the point that the religious parties have become popular because they speak for the middle class.

The tragedy of our politics is that we are overtaken by feudal politics in the name of democratic politics and no political party is able to become a political party in the true sense of the word. Who knows where Pir Pagara has seen these two and a half political parties. The truth is that there isn't a single political party, in fact, not even half a political party. The People's Party has the votes but no leaders, no organization, no political mentality, no political manners. They are just the survivors of the deceased Bhutto. The Muslim League is another name for Pir Pagara or Malik Qasim and Khwaja

Khair-ud Din. There was a Qayyum Khan, but he too has departed this life. The NDP is left, which Pir Pagara considers half a party. It has ended in the frontier province where it was born. One hears its name in Karachi because Abid Zubairi is there, but it doesn't exist in Karachi either. So the truth is that there are not even two and a half political parties in our country. We go off to make politics, that is, to fight, and there is no sword in our hand.

9914

CSO: 4656/39

PRESIDENT URGED TO HAVE BETTER RAPPORT WITH MEDIA

GF130915 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Jan 83 p 4

[Editorial: "President and Free Press"]

[Text] In his recent address to the nation, the president, while focusing on his visit abroad, referred in some detail to the media and its role. During the course of his visit to Canada and the United States, the president had met editorial boards of all major daily newspapers as well as leading weekly news-magazines. While urging Pakistani newspapers to also follow the pattern of the editorial boards which function in major Western newspapers, the president made a specific distinction between the official media (radio, television and the NPT) [NATIONAL PRESS TRUST] and the independent press which was responsible as well as free to express its views. Coming as it does from the highest quarter, such a commitment is both reassuring and necessary and should be an impetus for the newspapers to continue working in the highest national interest of providing facts freely and faithfully without fear of retribution from the powers that be.

In a way, the role of the independent press is more important and useful to the government than its own official media. Given the context the normal political avenues of expression are in suspension, the independent press by reporting events and points of view which are in divergence from the officially-certified truth can, more often than not, act as eyes and ears of the regime. Such information would be more correct than the data collected by all the government's intelligence agencies put together. Additionally, it adds to the credibility of the media and our own people do not have to rely on foreign radio broadcasts for information about events in their own country.

While welcoming the president's pronouncements on the media, we would also hope that the president will also carry out exercises at home similar to the ones he undertook during his visit abroad. There is no reason why the president should not regularly meet with the editors and the editorial boards of major Pakistani publications with a view to briefing them on pressing national issues plus contributing to developing of better rapport between government and the media. We should also suggest that it is not such a bad idea that if this practice is also extended to foreign dignitaries visiting Pakistan. The very fact that an independent press is allowed to function in Pakistan should be a big plus for the regime and it should take every step to strengthen this institution in its own interest, as well as that of the country.

CSO: 4200/290

ZIA'S SUGGESTION FOR SETTING UP EDITORIAL BOARDS OPPOSED

GF101520 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 8 Jan 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Editorial Boards for National Newspapers"]

[Excerpts] The president, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq expressed his regret at a Quetta press conference that certain establishments in Pakistan were not being given the status of an institution. He has therefore asked the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to set up "editorial boards" to formulate policies for the newspapers. It is very vague exactly how the editorial boards will be set up. Will they be set up only for the NATIONAL PRESS TRUST papers which the president calls "our papers" or the other papers which are not under the direct control of the government and which are "free newspapers" to quote the president? If the latter newspapers also have editorial boards appointed over them, how then can they be termed "free newspapers"?

It seems that the president had this brainstorm during his recent visit to the United States and Canada where he met members of some editorial boards of prominent newspapers and members of the publishing committees and held discussions with them.

It is natural to be influenced by conditions and institutions abroad during foreign visits and to wish for the same in one's country. However, just as every plant cannot be transplanted to other soil and requires proper soil and climatic conditions, institutions are products of particular set of circumstances and can only flourish and progress under those conditions. Newspapers can only grow into institutions when they acquire a sense of responsibility and are able to play their part in a free atmosphere.

The foundations of a free press in Pakistan were shattered when the late Ayub Khan set up the NATIONAL PRESS TRUST which directly or indirectly took over control of most newspapers which the president now openly labels "our newspapers" and "free newspapers".

Pakistan's free newspapers do not possess the resources of the free newspapers in Western countries but by the grace of God there have always been newspapers which have endeavored to play their part under most adverse circumstances;

The more national resources are placed at their disposal, the more they will progress. The minister of information and broadcasting can set up editorial boards for the NATION PRESS TRUST newspapers, but any unwelcomed advice or intervention in the affairs of the free newspapers will only serve to limit their minimal freedom and will also prove destructive to their prestige and social status. Such government "patronage" will not be acceptable to any of the euphemistically-named "free newspapers".

CSO: 4656/70

PAKISTAN

CARGO TRAIN SERVICE TO IRAN DISCUSSED

GF230634 Karachi DAWN in English 19 Dec 82 p 1

[From DAWN's "Economic and Business Review" supplement by Shaheen Sehba]

[Excerpts] Pakistan Railways is prepared to run special export cargo trains for Iran from Karachi provided the private sector gives a definite schedule of its requirements.

A top level spokesman of the Pakistan Railways confirmed that all consignments for Iran except fertiliser and wheat were stopped but he said arrangements were being made to provide five to six wagons within a day or two.

Talking to DAWN the spokesman said private sector exporters were mainly to blame for not being able to despatch their goods because they did not check with railway authorities before they confirmed their delivery periods to their clients in Iran.

"If we are consulted in advance, we will know the exact load for Iran and we will plan accordingly which will be good for the exporters as well as the railway authorities, but this is not being done."

"We are carrying fertiliser and we have been told that after every 10 days we have to provide about 30 wagons. This has made our job easier and the exporters job trustworthy. Why can't the private sector do that through the export promotion bureau."

He said all goods trains to Iran had been stopped recently due to breaches at Ahmedwal. Now these have been plugged and trains have started moving again.

Asked about the deterioration in standard of service and output, the spokesman agreed that standards have fallen ever since the road transport lobby became stronger in 1967. But now the government has realised that the railway system was the cheapest and the most economical for the country and efforts are being made to improve things.

The spokesman said as much as Rs30 billion had been asked for the development of railways in the Sixth Five-Year Plan. How much of this is made available would show the priority we receive.

CSO: 4200/270

PUNJAB TO INSTITUTE PROCEDURAL LAW AND ORDER CHANGE

GF241323 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Dec 82 p 1

[Text] Lahore, 19 Dec--The Punjab government has approved a number of basic changes in the existing procedural and legal framework for matters pertaining to maintenance of law and order, police high handedness and crime control.

In this connection a summary of the decisions was presented before the Punjab Council here today by the home secretary, Mr Nasir Ahmed.

He told the house that the number of arms licences for issuance to the general public had been increased from 400 to 2,000 per month. A fresh procedure had been laid down for the acquisition of an arm license which could also be issued on the recommendation of the members of the Majlis-e Shoora [National Advisory Council] or the members of the Punjab Council. But no quota had been fixed for the members of those bodies.

All procedural formalities would be completed before the issuance of an arms licence to an individual, including the police clearance report, the home secretary informed.

Moreover the government had also decided to immediately initiate all cases of murder and damages to property in the military courts, if committed by students. Similarly case of bank embezzlement and dacoity would also be referred to the military courts without any reservation.

In addition to this various additional security measures had been adopted, particularly in jails. Almost all the jails had been provided with the facility of automatic electric alarm system besides laying barbed wires on the boundary walls of the jails.

The home secretary admitted that there did occur a number of incidents in the province in the past which created law and order situation. The reasons which led to such a situation were narrated as Muharram [month of Shi'ite mourning] processions, sabotage activities, sectarian difference between the communities of Deobandi and Bareilivi, amendments in the legal practitioners act, political matters, industrial relations and student affairs. The home secretary described

the law and order problem as the issues of minor nature but added that the government was keeping a constant vigilance upon them. And until now it had maintained a very lenient view in this regards.

The government had also decided to constitute an interprovincial coordination committee on law and order and crime control. This committee would comprise of the IGS [inspectors general of police] and home secretaries from all the four provinces which would meet at Islamabad regularly after every three months. This committee would suggest ways and means to take steps to eliminate gangs of saboteurs and anti-social elements moving from province to province.

The existing proforma for filing FIR [first information report] in the police station was also being changed and from now onward every S.H.O. [station head officer] would be considered responsible for crimes committed in the area of his police station.

CSO: 4200/270

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

AL-ZULFIQAR OFFICE CLOSED--Peshawar, 30 Dec--Following the closure of the office of the "Al-Zulfiqar" organization in Kabul, the close friends of Murtaza Bhutto who were in Kabul until a few days ago have left Kabul due to the lack of support from the Afghan officials. They include Peshawar's Sohail Sethi and his wife, Qamar Sethi, and some others. According to reports received here, despite the fact that the "Al-Zulfiqar" office has been moved, the training of anti-national terrorist elements continues abroad and has now been overtly taken over by Afghan intelligence. Law enforcement officials have reportedly arrested 40 persons on suspicion of terrorism but released them after interrogation. [Text] [GF011210 Karachi NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 31 Dec 82 p 8]

CHATTI ON AFGHANISTAN, MIDDLE EAST--The Committee on Science and Technology of the Islamic conference will meet in March next year in Islamabad. President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq is the chairman of the committee. He will inaugurate and preside over the meeting. This was stated by Habib Chatti, secretary general of Organization of Islamic Conference, in Islamabad this afternoon before leaving for Jidda at the conclusion of his 6-day visit to Pakistan. About Afghanistan, Chatti said he held detailed talks on this issue with the president, but they did not see any major or decisive breakthrough which could help find a solution of this crisis or end the issue soon. However, he agreed that efforts will continue to find a peaceful solution of this question within the UN framework. He said if the Soviet Union expresses its desire for a dialogue with the Organization of Islamic Conference on the Afghanistan problem, the organization can even have direct talks with it. On the Iran-Iraq war, he said the Islamic Community Peace Committee is considering constructive proposals to end this war. Habib Chatti said his talks with the Pakistan President also covered the Fes plan for a solution of the Middle East issue and it was agreed that the Pakistan delegation attending the al-Qods committee session in Morocco next month will fully support the resolutions adopted at the Fes conference and also stress upon other Islamic states to support these resolutions. [Text] [BK301603 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 30 Dec 82]

POLITICAL LEADER ARRESTED--Lahore, 19 Dec--Rao Rashid, coordination secretary, MRD [Movement for Restoration of Democracy] Punjab, and a leader of the Pakistan People's Party, was arrested from his residence at about 4 a.m. and taken to Sahiwal jail. He has been detained under martial law order No 12 for a period of three months. According to Mrs Rashid, a police party headed by two DSPs [deputy superintendent of police] arrived at their cantonment residence in four jeeps and a truck and took him under custody. [Text] [GF241216 Karachi DAWN in English 20 Dec 82 p 10]

YAQUB KHAN NEWS CONFERENCE IN BAHRAIN--Pakistan and Bahrain have agreed to set up a joint committee to assess concrete measures for increasing cooperation in economic, trade and cultural fields. This was stated by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan at a news conference prior to his departure for home [from Manama]. Referring to his talks with the Bahraini leaders, he said he had in-depth discussions on Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq war and several other issues including Middle East. He said the discussions also covered upcoming nonaligned nations' summit conference and President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's recent visits to China, USSR and the United States. In reply to a question, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said to expect a solution to the Afghanistan problem in near future is unrealistic. However, he said that the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan can only pave the way for the peaceful solution to this problem which will benefit all nations of the region. The foreign minister has now returned to Karachi after his 5-day visit to Oman and Bahrain. [Text] [BK121705 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Jan 83]

IRON ORE DEPOSITS FOUND--Quetta, 5 Jan--The PIDC [Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation] proposes to put up a plan based on iron ore deposits found near Nok-Kundi in the Chagai District of Baluchistan. The project aims at mining and producing 800,000 tons of pellets annually. The corporation has already found about 25 million tons of iron ore reserves at Chiken Dik and Pachin Koh Nok-Kundi in the Chagai District. The percentage of iron ore contents at Pachin Koh is about 55 per cent while at Chiken Dik about 53 per cent. There are indications of about 100 million tons of iron ore reserves in the area. [Text] [GF130910 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 6 Jan 83 p 6]

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